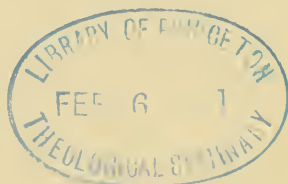




24
1/50
751



D1993-
PL3F5
A3
V1

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

1620-1859

VOLUME I



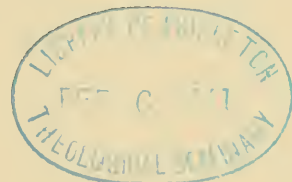
Jⁿ. Winthrop.

*Engraved for The Colonial Society of Massachusetts
from the painting attributed to Robert Walker.*

✓ Plymouth, Mass. First church.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

1620-1859



VOLUME I



NEW YORK

1920

The University Press :
JOHN WILSON AND SON, CAMBRIDGE, U. S. A.

BOARD OF OFFICERS
OF
The New England Society in the
City of New York

SEPTEMBER 1, 1920

President

DARWIN P. KINGSLEY

First Vice-President

CLARENCE W. BOWEN

Second Vice-President

ALBERT H. WIGGIN

Treasurer

GEORGE W. HODGES

Secretary

HARRY A. CUSHING

Directors

ZOHETH S. FREEMAN

WILLIAM NORRIS HUBBARD

CORNELIUS A. PUGSLEY

JOHN J. WATSON, JR.

GORHAM BACON

HAROLD A. HATCH

HARRY B. THAYER

EDWIN D. WORCESTER

BERTRAM H. BORDEN

JOSEPH H. EMERY

JOHN G. LUKE

HENRY W. TAFT

IRVING BACHELLER

ISAAC B. JOHNSON

HUNTER S. MARSTON

HOWARD C. SMITH

TABLE OF CONTENTS

VOLUME I

	PAGE
OFFICERS OF THIS SOCIETY, 1 SEPTEMBER, 1920	v
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	xi
PREFACE	xiii
INTRODUCTION	xv
LISTS OF:	
Pastors	li
Associate Pastors	li
Elders	li
Deacons	lii
Meeting-houses	liv
Offshoots from the Plymouth Church	liv
BIBLIOGRAPHIES:	
Pastors and Associate Pastors	lv
Ordination and Funeral Sermons	lxi
PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS:	
Volume I, 1620-1732:	
Part I, 1620-1680, by William Bradford and Nathaniel Morton:	
Preface, 1680, by Nathaniel Morton	3
History of the Plymouth Church, 1620-1680, by William Bradford and Nathaniel Morton	6
Dialogue, 1648, by William Bradford	115
Part II, 1667-1699, by John Cotton	142
Part III, 1703-1723, by Ephraim Little	190
Part IV, 1724-1732, by Nathaniel Leonard:	
Church Transactions, 1724	224
Church Members, 1724-1732	227

	PAGE
Church Transactions, 1724-1726	230
Baptisms, 1724-1726	231
Church Transactions, 1726	232
Baptisms, 1726-1728	234
Church Transactions, 1726-1727	235
Baptisms, 1728-1729	236
Church Transactions, 1728	237
Church Members, 1728-1732	238
Church Transactions, 1728-1731	239
Baptisms, 1730-1731	240
Church Transactions, 1731	241
Baptisms, 1731-1732	242
Church Transactions, 1731-1732	243
Books owned by the Church	247
Part V, 1682-1693, by John Cotton	249
Volume II, 1732-1799, by Nathaniel Leonard and Chandler Robbins:	
Church Transactions, 1732-1795	285
Deaths, 1760-1798	390
Baptisms, 1732-1787	429
Church Members, 1760	468
VOLUME II	
Volume II, 1732-1799, continued:	
Dismissions, 1771-1796	471
Church Members, 1760-1797	471
Baptisms, 1788-1798	477
Church Transactions, 1795-1797	486
Marriages, 1760-1798	492
Persons that have owned the Covenant, 1732-1770	510
Church Transactions, 1797-1798	512
Dismissions, 1737-1756	521
Church Members, 1732-1756	521
Volume III, 1799-1859, by Chandler Robbins and James Kendall:	
Church Transactions, 1799-1853	533
Baptisms, 1799-1859	604
Deaths, 1799-1807	620
Church Members, 1799-1857	634
Marriages, 1799-1822	643

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ix

PAGE

Dismissions and Recommendations, 1804-1833 . . .	655
Deaths, 1808-1859	656
Marriages, 1823-1859	695
Church Transactions, 1852-1859	710

INDEX	721
-----------------	-----

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

VOLUME I

	PAGE
PORTRAIT OF EDWARD WINSLOW <i>Frontispiece</i> From the painting in Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, attributed to Robert Walker	
SECOND MEETING-HOUSE, PLYMOUTH, 1683-1744 From a drawing of unknown date in the possession of Arthur Lord, Esq.	xlvi
HANDWRITING OF NATHANIEL MORTON From the Plymouth Church Records, Volume I, Part I	4
TITLE-PAGE OF JOHN ROBINSON'S A JUSTIFICATION OF SEPARATION FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, 1610 From a copy in Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, owned by the First Church	118
TITLE-PAGE OF THOMAS CARTWRIGHT'S COMMENTARII SUCCINCTI & DILUCIDI IN PROVERBIA SALOMONIS, 1617 From a copy in Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, owned by the First Church	128
HANDWRITING OF JOHN COTTON From the Plymouth Church Records, Volume I, Part II	142
PORTRAIT OF JOSIAH WINSLOW From the painting in Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, attributed to Robert Walker	156
HANDWRITING OF EPHRAIM LITTLE From the Plymouth Church Records, Volume I, Part III	190
HANDWRITING OF NATHANIEL LEONARD From the Plymouth Church Records, Volume I, Part IV	224
THIRD MEETING-HOUSE, PLYMOUTH, 1744-1831 From a drawing of unknown date in the possession of Arthur Lord, Esq.	288
HANDWRITING OF CHANDLER ROBBINS From the Plymouth Church Records, Volume II	390

VOLUME II

	PAGE
PORTRAIT OF CHANDLER ROBBINS From a miniature in the possession of Chandler Robbins, Esq.	<i>Frontispiece</i>
PORTRAIT OF JAMES KENDALL From the painting by Chester Harding in the possession of Arthur Lord, Esq.	538
HANDWRITING OF JAMES KENDALL From the Plymouth Church Records, Volume III	542
VIEW OF TOWN SQUARE, PLYMOUTH, ABOUT 1828 From the drawing by Benjamin Parris Bartlett in Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth	578
FOURTH MEETING-HOUSE, PLYMOUTH, 1831-1892 From Dr. James Thacher's History of the Town of Plymouth, 1832	584
PORTRAIT OF GEORGE WARE BRIGGS From a photograph taken on his eightieth birth-day, 10 April, 1890	596
PORTRAIT OF EDWARD HENRY HALL From a photograph by Notman	718

PREFACE

THESE two volumes contain the first three volumes of the original records of the First Church in Plymouth. The printing of the volumes has been undertaken in coöperation with the Colonial Society of Massachusetts.

Of the material here presented, only a portion has hitherto appeared in print. The first of the three original volumes consists of five parts, each separately paged. A considerable portion, but by no means all, of the first part was printed in 1841 by the Rev. Dr. Alexander Young, in his *Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers*; and the second part of the first volume has been printed in the *Mayflower Descendant*. But the third, fourth, and fifth parts of the first volume, and all of the second and of the third volume are now published for the first time. It is believed that no more important contribution to the ecclesiastical history of New England has been made than will be found in these volumes.

For the Introduction, the Society is indebted to Mr. ARTHUR LORD.

For the Board,

HARRY A. CUSHING,
Secretary.

NEW YORK, September 1, 1920.

INTRODUCTION

A TABLET on the meeting-house of the First Church in Plymouth bears this inscription:

The Church of Scrooby, Leyden and the Mayflower,
Gathered on this hillside in 1620,
Has ever since preserved unbroken records,
And maintained a continuous ministry,
Its first covenant being still the basis of
its fellowship.

The meeting-house stands fronting the Town Square and Leyden Street,

 Their hill of graves behind it,
 Their watery way before.

The first three volumes of the church records preserve the story of this church from its beginnings at Scrooby until the year 1859. The records from the beginning until 1669 are in the handwriting of Nathaniel Morton, who served as clerk or secretary of the colonial Court from December 7, 1647, until June 2, 1685, and as town clerk from March 4, 1648, the date of his first record in the town book, until his death June 28, 1685.

In July, 1623, Nathaniel Morton, then a boy of about eleven years, came with his father, George Morton, in the Ann to Plymouth. His mother was Juliana Carpenter, sister of Alice Carpenter who, then the widow of Edward Southworth, was married to Governor Bradford in 1623. In 1669 the New England's Memorial, the book by which Morton is best known, was "Published for the Use and Benefit of present and future Generations."

When in January, 1680, he began the ecclesiastical history of the Church of Christ at Plymouth in New England, which is now presented in these volumes, he quaintly refers to his New England's Memorial "in which I occasionally took Notice of Gods Great and

Graciouss worke in erecting so many Churches of Christ in this wildernes; But it was Judged by some that were Judicious that I was too sparing and short in that behalf; The consideration wherof put mee on thoughts of Recollecting somthing more p'ticularly Relateing to the Church of Plymouth."

Animated by that purpose and undismayed by the loss of his manuscript by the great fire in Boston in 1676, he writes, "I did once againe Repaire to the studdy of my much honored Vncle, William Bradford Esquire deceased." In that storehouse of original material, with the manuscripts of the Governor before him and with the records of town and colony to him a familiar story, he undertakes the work. Boy and man he had lived in Plymouth for fifty-seven years on terms of closest intimacy with many a member of the Mayflower company who had welcomed him on his arrival in 1623. Official records, family tradition, and personal acquaintance with members, elders and ministers of the Pilgrim Church made him the best equipped man in all the colony to write the story of that church during the three-quarters of a century which had passed since its feeble beginnings in its English home. When Dr. Alexander Young published his *Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers* in 1841, the importance of these church records to the student of Pilgrim history amply justified the high tribute that learned annalist paid them when he wrote: "It takes precedence of every thing else relating to the Pilgrims, in time, authority, and interest. It will be found to contain a detailed history of their rise in the North of England, their persecutions there, their difficult and perilous escape into Holland, their residence in that hospitable land for twelve years, the causes which led to their emigration, and the means which they adopted to transport themselves to America."¹

Dr. Young was the first historian to note the real authorship of the narrative in the records, a fact put beyond all doubt by the marginal note of Morton, "This was originally pened by Willam Bradford Gour of New Plymouth." The first volume also contains Governor Bradford's first "Dialogue or the sume of a Conference between som younge men borne in New England and sundery Ancient men that came out of Holland and old England Ann^o dom̃ 1648," giving an account of many of the English Independents and

¹ P. vii.

of the meaning of the term Separation, as understood by the leaders of the movement, and also the memoir of Elder Brewster, written by Bradford, and some letters from Robinson and others of the Pilgrim company.

In the towns and villages of Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, where these counties bordered nearest together, this church was formed "and as the Lords free people Joyned themselves (by a Covenant of the Lord) into a Church estate in the fellowship of the Gospell to walk in all his wayes made knowne or to be made knowne vnto them according to their best endeauours, whatsoeuer it should Cost them." The covenant which bound them was as simple as the burdens which oppressed them were severe.

Their first pastor was Mr. Richard Clifton, "a Graue and Reuerend Preacher," who held that office from the organization of the church in 1606 until he was succeeded by John Robinson, some time his colleague. William Brewster was their first elder, and John Carver, their first Governor, was chosen deacon of the church while in Holland as early as 1617.

It is unnecessary to repeat here the story set forth in full in these records, since the publication of Bradford's History of the Plymouth Plantation, which Morton freely used in these records and in part followed verbatim, has made the story of their lives, labors, and sufferings as familiar as a household tale. It is the ecclesiastical history rather than the political, economic and social record of the Pilgrims and their successors at Plymouth which is mainly preserved in these volumes and may justify an Introduction.

When the time for the Pilgrims' departure from Leyden came, it was decided that as the greater number of the Leyden church were to stay behind, it was the duty of the pastor, John Robinson, to remain, and for the elder, William Brewster, to go with those who were to find a new home in the New World. It was also "agreed on by mutuall consente and covenante, that those that went should be an absolute church of them selves, as well as those that staid;" for they feared that in such a dangerous voyage and a removal to such a distance it might come to pass that they should never meet again. But this agreement was made with the proviso that "as any of the rest came over to them, or of the other returned upon occasion, they

should be reputed as members without any further dismission or testimoniall.”¹ Technically the date of the foundation of the First Church in Plymouth may be considered as 1620.

John Robinson, the scholarly and pious leader of this independent movement, must be regarded as the true founder of Independency or Congregationalism. His views as expressed in his later writings show a breadth and liberality and toleration which deeply impressed not only the members of his own church but exercised a wide influence in the religious thought of the time. It was undoubtedly true, as Edward Winslow admitted, that Robinson “was more rigid in his course and way at first, then towards his latter end.”² When he exhorted the Pilgrims “If God should reveal any thing to us by any other instrument of his, to be as ready to receive it as ever we were to receive any truth by his Ministry,”³ he compelled the conviction and impressed upon his hearers the thought that there was more light yet to come.

Looking at the ecclesiastical history of this church in its earlier years in Holland and admitting the influence which the Dutch toleration exerted, one cannot fail to be impressed with the accuracy of the statement of Edward Winslow that “the foundation of our *New-England* Plantations was not laid upon Schisme, division, or Separation, but upon love, peace, and holinesse.”⁴ The Pilgrims undoubtedly were strict Calvinists. The fact that their great religious leader and teacher Robinson was “terrible to the Arminians” was a source of pride and gratification. Their religious dogma and their church polity was clearly and authoritatively stated by William Perkins and John Robinson, the two great leaders of the religious thought expressed in this independent movement.

William Perkins, a Cambridge graduate and voluminous writer, and whose works were more numerous included in Brewster's library than those of any other theologian, had gathered into six principles the foundation of Christian religion. In a catechism entitled “The Fovndation of Christian Religion, gathered into sixe Principles. As it is to be learned of ignorant people, that they may

¹ Bradford, *History*, i. 98.

² Winslow, *Hypocrisie Unmasked* (1916), p. 93.

³ *Id.* p. 97.

⁴ *Id.* p. 93.

be fit to heare Sermons with profit and to receiue the Lords Supper with comfort," these six principles of Perkins are as follows:

1st. There is one God, Creator, and Gouvernour of all things, distinguished into the Father, the sonne, and the holy Ghost.

2nd. All men are wholly corrupted with sin through Adams fal, & so are become slaues of Sathan, and guiltie of eternall damnation.

3rd. Iesus Christ the eternal Sonne of God, being made man, by his death vpon the Crosse, and by his righteousness, hath perfectly alone by himselfe, accomplished all things that are needfull for the saluation of mankind.

4th. A man of a contrite and humble spirite, by faith alone apprehending and applying Christ with all his merits vnto himselfe, is iustified before God, and sanctified.

5th. Faith commeth onely by the preaching of the word, and increaseth dayly by it: as also by the administration of the Sacraments, and praier.

6th. All men shall rise againe with their own bodies, to the last iudgement, which beeing ended, the godly shall possesse the kingdome of heauen: but vnbeleeuers and reprobates shall be in hell, tormented with the diuell and his angels for euer.¹

Robinson wrote an Appendix to these principles in the form of a Catechism, containing forty-six questions and answers. He defines a church as "A company of faithful and holy people, with their seed, called by the Word of God into public covenant with Christ and amongst themselves, for mutual fellowship in the use of all the means of God's glory and their salvation," and limits its number so that it shall not exceed such a number as may ordinarily meet together in one place for the worship of God. He defines the offices of ministry in the church to be —

1. The pastor (exhorter), to whom is given the gift of wisdom for exhortation. 2. The teacher, to whom is given the gift of knowledge for doctrine. 3. The governing elder, who is to rule with diligence. . . . 4. The deacon, who is to administer the holy treasure with simplicity. 5. The widow or deaconess, who is to attend the sick and impotent with compassion and cheerfulness;

and states the outward works of the church's communion with Christ as —

¹ Works (1608), pp. 1, 2.

1. Prayer. 2. The reading and opening of the Word. 3. The sacraments. 4. Singing of Psalms. 5. Censures. 6. Contribution to the necessities of the saints.¹

The church polity and the church dogma of this Pilgrim church are authoritatively stated in the catechisms of Perkins and of Robinson, and the catechism used as late as Mr. Cotton's ministry (1669-1697) was the catechism of William Perkins, though it was during Mr. Cotton's pastorate that a change was made (in 1678) to the Assembly's shorter catechism.²

The first definitive declaration of the faith and church polity of the Pilgrims is found in the document in the Public Record Office at London, signed by John Robinson and William Brewster and first printed by Mr. George Bancroft in 1857, which reads as follows:

Seven Articles which y^e Church of Leyden sent to y^e [Privy] Councell of England to bee considered of in respectk of their judgments occationed about theer going to Virginia Anno 1618.

1. To y^e confession of fayth [the 39 Articles of Religion of 1562] published in y^e name of y^e Church of England & to every artikell theerof wee do wth y^e reformed churches wheer wee live & also elsewhere assent wholly.

2. As wee do acknolidg y^e doctryne of fayth theer tawght so do wee y^e fruites and effectks of y^e same doctryne to y^e begetting of saving fayth in thousands in y^e land [of England] (conformistes and reformistes) as y^e ar called wth whom also as wth our bretheren wee do desyre to keepe sperituall communion in peace and will pracktis in our parts all lawfull thinges.

3. The King's Majesty wee acknolidg for Supreame Governer in his Dominions in all causes and over all parsons, and y^t none maye de-cklyne or apeale from his authority or judgment in any cause whatsoever but y^t in all thinges obedience is dewe unto him, either active, if y^e thing commanded be not agaynst God's woord, or passive yf itt bee, except pardon can bee obtayned.

4. Wee judg itt lawfull [morally right] for his Majesty to apoynt bishops, civill overseers, or officers in awthority onder hime in y^e severall provinces, dioses, congregations or parrishes, to oversee y^e Churches and governe them civilly [secularly] according to y^e Lawes of y^e Land,

¹ Works (1851), iii. 427, 429, 431.

² Cf. pp. 145, 154, 172, 175, 178, below.

unto whom y^e ar in all thinges to gyve an account & by them to bee ordered according to Godlyness.

5. The authority of y^e present bishops in y^e Land [of England] wee do acknolidge so far forth as y^e same is indeed derived from his Majesty unto them and as y^e proceed in his name, whom wee will also therein honor in all things and hime in them.

6. Wee beleewe y^t no sinod, classes, convocation or assembly of Ecclesiastical Officers hath any power or awthority att all but as y^e same [is] by y^e Magestraet geven unto them.

7. Lastly, wee desyer to geve unto all Superiors dew honnor to preserve y^e unity of y^e speritt wth all feare God, to have peace wth all men what in us lyeth & wheerein wee err to bee instructed by any.¹

Whether the purpose in subscribing to this declaration was mainly to minimize the differences between the Leyden church and the Church of England, in order to secure the necessary permission to go beyond the seas and found an English colony, or whether there is some distinction to be drawn between the ecclesiastical and civil authority of the bishops, which they recognized, and qualifies a literal construction of the language, is not clear. Winslow in his *Hypocricie Unmasked*, quotes Robinson as saying —

And to that end . . . I should be glad if some godly Minister would goe over with you, or come to you, before my comming; For . . . there will bee no difference between the unconformable Ministers [the Puritan Anglican clergy] and you, when they come to the practise of the Ordinances out of the Kingdome.²

To the same effect is the brief and simple statement in the letter of January, 1618, signed by Robinson and Brewster, as follows:

Touching the Ecclesiastical minnestry Namely — of Pastours for teaching Elders for Ruleing and deacons for distributing the Churches Contribution as alsoe for the two sacraments Baptisme and the Lords supper wee doe wholly and in all points agree with the ffrench Reformed Churches, according to their publick confession of ffaithe though some smal differences. The oath of Supremacie we shall willingly tak if it be Required of vs if that Convenient satisfaction be not giuen by our takinge the oath of Allegience.³

¹ 2 Collections New York Historical Society, iii. 301-302.

² P. 98.

³ See p. 36, below.

The oath of Supremacy acknowledged the king to be "the supreme head of the Church of England," and the oath of Allegiance was an oath of "submission and obedience to the king as a temporal sovereign independent of any other power upon earth."

Although the imperious necessities of the situation made it necessary for the members of the Mayflower company to form themselves into a body politic for the administration of civil affairs, no occasion existed for a formal organization of a new church. The plan adopted in Leyden was entirely adequate to their needs and they had hoped that the pastor and the rest of the church might soon follow them to their new home. The death of Robinson in Leyden on March 1, 1625, prevented that consummation of their hopes which they devoutly wished. From time to time other members of the Leyden church came to Plymouth until in 1629, at the charge of the Plymouth brethren, thirty-five families were finally transported to Plymouth at the cost of about five hundred pounds sterling.

The result of this removal and the union that year with others who had been members of Mr. Lothrop's church in England, was that the First Church at Plymouth about this time "became pretty numerous and flourishing, although in regard of Ministry it was low with them," as stated by Mr. John Cotton in his Account of the Church of Christ in Plymouth.¹

The faithful administrations of their scholarly and beloved elder did not fully meet all their needs. The duties and authority of an elder of the church did not include and permit the administration of the sacraments. In the absence of the pastor, marriages were performed by civil rather than ecclesiastical authorities, following the practice in Holland, a matter later of reproach to Edward Winslow and subjecting him to the penalty of imprisonment in the Fleet prison on the occasion of an early visit to London.

¹ In an Appendix (p. 3) to the sermon preached by the Rev. Philemon Robbins at the ordination of his son the Rev. Chandler Robbins at Plymouth on January 30, 1760. This John Cotton (who was a son of Josiah Cotton, a grandson of the Rev. John Cotton of Plymouth, and a great-grandson of the Rev. John Cotton of Boston) graduated at Harvard College in 1730, was ordained the first minister of Halifax in 1735, was dismissed in 1755, retired from the ministry and settled at Plymouth, where he died November 4, 1789. He will be mentioned again in this Introduction: see pp. xxxvi-xxxix, below. For the title of Mr. Robbins's sermon, see p. lxi, below.

The first preacher at Plymouth was one John Lyford, who came to Plymouth in 1624 and before the expiration of a year was discovered to be "a vile man and an enemy to the plantation," and was banished from Plymouth.

The church remained without a minister until 1628, and then there was sent over from England to be their minister a young man by the name of Rogers. The church did not hastily determine upon the settlement of Rogers, recalling their experience in Lyford's case, and made some trial of him as a candidate with an unsatisfactory result. They found him to be "Crased in his braine," and at the expense of the church sent him back to England. Their conclusion as to his mental condition seemed to be fully justified, for after his departure he "Grew quite destracted."

The first settled minister of the church was the Rev. Ralph Smith who, at the invitation of the church, became its pastor in 1629 and remained with them until his resignation in 1635. During Mr. Smith's ministry they employed assistants to him, finding him to be "a man of low gifts and parts." Among these assistants were Mr. Roger Williams, "a young Man of bright Accomplishments, but of unstable Judgment," who at his own request, against the wishes of many of the congregation, was granted a dismission to the church at Salem in 1634; and Mr. John Norton, who came to Plymouth in October, 1635, but went to Ipswich in the following March.¹

The church then made choice of Mr. John Reyner as the successor to Mr. Smith, "an able and a Godly man; and of a Meek and humble sperite, sound in the truth and euery way vnreprouable in his life and Conversation." During his term of service the church in 1638 endeavored to secure the services of Mr. Charles Chauncy as his colleague. Mr. Reyner was expected to officiate as pastor and Mr. Chauncy as teacher, according to the distinction of those days, the

¹ Mr. Norton arrived in the vessel in which Edward Winslow returned. When Winslow went to England in 1634, he was commissioned "to procure them an able man" to be helpful to Mr. Reyner, and was "prouided of one (as hee hoped) to Come ouer with him viz: one m^r Glouer a very able dispencer of the word; but hee ended his life in London before hee Came on board" (p. 73, below). George E. Littlefield identified this "m^r Glouer" with the Rev. Jose Glover, who died on the voyage from England to Boston in 1638: see Littlefield, *Early Press of Massachusetts*, i. 19, 34-35. Cf. W. C. Ford, in *Bradford's History*, ii. 161 note.

teacher's duty being chiefly to explain the doctrines, and the pastor's to enforce them with suitable counsels and exhortations.

Mr. Chauncy preached at Plymouth for nearly three years but declined a settlement, being of different opinion from the majority of the church as to the method of baptism, which he held should be by dipping or plunging the whole body in water. The church were reluctant to lose his services and offered to compromise by permitting him to administer the ordinance of baptism by immersion, provided he would permit Mr. Reyner to baptize, if requested, by sprinkling, which was then the mode in general use. The position was taken by some of the church leaders that both of these methods were lawful and proper but that the latter method, the baptism by sprinkling, was vastly more convenient in this cold climate. Mr. Chauncy "did not see Light to comply," and left the Plymouth Church to become the minister of the church at Scituate, and later became President of Harvard College, entering upon the duties of his office on November 27, 1654, and died on the 19th of February, 1672.

After eighteen years of service Mr. Reyner resigned in 1654, "Richly accomplished with such Gifts and qvallifications as were befitting his place being wise faithfull Grave sober a louer of Good men Not Greedy of the matters of the world Armed with much faith patience and meeknes mixed with Currage in the cause of God."¹

In 1632 churches at Duxbury and Green's Harbor (or Marshfield) were established, mainly upon practical considerations based upon the difficulty of members bringing "their wiues and Children to the publick worshipp and Church meetings heer."

The third church to be set off was at Nauset, now Eastham. It had been at first proposed that the whole church should migrate to Nauset on account of the "straightnes and barrenes" which the inhabitants found in Plymouth. There was a marked division of opinion as to the wisdom of the removal which further consideration of the objections to the proposed change increased. It may be inferred from Bradford's statement that he was not in favor of abandoning the settlement at Plymouth which with so great labor and pains they had established, and after much deliberation they began

¹ P. 108, below.

“to see their error,” and an agreement was finally reached that only those members of the church who had definitely decided upon removal and had made some beginning should establish themselves at Nauset.

The land at Nauset had been reserved by Governor Bradford for the benefit of the “purchasers or old comers” in his assignment of the patent of 1629, and the General Court granted in 1644 to the church at Plymouth or to those that went to dwell at Nauset a large tract, well defined in the grant.¹ The effect of this migration to the new settlement of many active and leading members of the Plymouth church is quaintly and tenderly stated by Governor Bradford in these words:

And thus was this poore church left, like an anciente mother, growne olde, and forsaken of her children, (though not in their affections), yett in regarde of their bodily presence and personall helpfulnes. Her anciente members being most of them worne away by death; and these of later time being like children translated into other families, and she like a widow left only to trust in God. Thus she that had made many rich became her selfe poore.²

This movement of families from the town of Plymouth into the outlying districts raised some interesting questions which required consideration and advice. On the 5th day of August, 1639, Mr. Reyner, the pastor, and elder Brewster, wrote a letter, probably to the Rev. John Cotton at Boston, asking some questions “concerning the holding of farmes,” among them the following:

2. Seeing by meanes of such farmes a mans famylie is Diuided so that in busie tymes they cannot (except vpon the Lords day) all of them joyne with him in famylie duties whether to make use of them because of the forenamed needfulnes be not to doe euell that good may come of yt.³

After Mr. Reyner's resignation in 1654, the church remained for fifteen years without a settled minister and was obliged to rely upon the services of neighboring ministers, although public worship was carried on each Sabbath by Elder Cushman with the assistance of

¹ Plymouth Colony Records, ii. 81.

² History, ii. 369.

³ Bradford's History, ii. 275 note, where the letter is printed in full.

some of the brethren, except when the pulpit was supplied for short periods during these years by Mr. James Williams, an able Gospel preacher, who after a brief service returned to England, and by Mr. William Brinsmead, a well accomplished servant of Christ.

In September, 1666, the Rev. John Cotton, son of the Rev. John Cotton of Boston, was called to Plymouth, but declined the invitation. The next year the invitation was renewed and he removed to Plymouth with his family November 30, 1667, but was not ordained as the minister of the church until June 30, 1669.

The distinction between the church and the town or parish in relation to their several powers to contract with or settle a minister may well be noted here, as it tends to explain the reason that the prudential affairs of the church had no consideration in the church meetings, whose full details are preserved in these records.

The power to settle the minister resided wholly in the members of the parish; the members of the church formed but a small part in numbers of the parish. The ancient usage required that the church should first make choice of a minister and then request the concurrence of the parish. If the parish did not concur, the action of the church was a mere nullity. If the parish concurred, then the contract of settlement was made between the parish and the minister and bound only the parish and minister. Until the town was divided into precincts or parishes, it was considered to be one parish, and when a separate parish was formed within it, then the inhabitants and territory not included in the separate parish constituted the first parish. Before the town was divided their parochial concerns were transacted at the town meeting. The town fixed the salary, imposed the rate to pay the salary and to provide for the purchasing of a place or parsonage for the minister, and contracted for the erection of the meeting-house. If a suit was brought by the builders of the meeting-house to recover for failure to pay the agreed cost of construction, it was brought against the town and the town instructed its committee to defend it.

The provisions for the payment of the minister's salary were made by the town and varied with the changing years. Sometimes the salary was fixed in money alone. More often in the earlier years grant was made of money salary and firewood, as in the case of Mr. Brinsmead in 1666, when his salary was fixed at "seventy

pounds a yeare besides his fierwood.”¹ Three years earlier in 1663 the town had ordered that the wood on Clark’s Island, Saquish, and the Gurnett’s Nose, be reserved for the use of the minister,² an interesting record as it established the fact that the now barren points of Saquish and the Gurnett were once covered with wood, as shown in the descriptions of these localities by the early voyagers. Sometimes, as in the case of Mr. Cotton, provision was made by the town for an allowance to his wife or family in the event of his death, of an annual salary and the use of the parsonage house until the town was provided with another minister.

When money was difficult to obtain in 1677, the salary of Mr. Cotton of “four score pounds for this yeare” was paid by the town, one third in wheat or butter or tar or shingles; one third in rye, peas or malt; and one third in Indian corn, at the prices named in the vote.³ The town records show that from time to time efforts were made to provide for the maintenance by free subscription and committees were appointed to see what persons would contribute towards the minister’s support. This plan appeared to be unsatisfactory, as the town soon returned to the method of raising the salary by the rates. As late as 1795 the town leased the sedge lands along the Town Brook, which had been reserved for the use of the ministry, for 999 years, at a rental of six bushels of corn on the northerly side, the southerly side of the Brook having been rented for four bushels of corn in 1788, and until the death of the Rev. James Kendall in 1859 this rental was annually paid to the pastor by the lessees or their grantees.

If a town or parish settled a minister without any limitations as to the continuance of his settlement or any stipulation as to the method of dissolution, it created a contract for life and could be terminated only in the manner and for the causes established by law. The connection could not be dissolved by the parish at its mere will and pleasure without alleging some misconduct on the part of the minister. There were three established causes of forfeiture of office by the minister: first, a substantial and essential change of doctrine; secondly, a wilful neglect of duty; and thirdly, immoral

¹ Plymouth Town Records, i. 77.

² i. 53.

³ i. 154. In 1676 Mr. Cotton had been allowed £60 (i. 150–151).

or criminal conduct. The immoralities sufficient to justify a parish in dismissing their minister without the intervention of a council, are those of the grosser sort, such as habitual intemperance, lying, unchaste or immodest behavior.¹

If the town or parish desired the dissolution of connection between them and the minister or the minister desired such dissolution, and also where there were charges of immorality or neglect on the part of the minister, the parties, if they could not agree to dissolve the contract, called to their assistance an ecclesiastical council. The decision of the council did not bind either party, and the effect of the advice of the council was merely a legal justification of the party who adopted its recommendation.²

The colonial laws as well as the decisions of the court show a solicitous care for the support of an able and godly minister. At the General Court held at Plymouth on the 10th of June, 1650, it was provided that "Whosoever shall villifie by approbrivs tearmes or speaches any church or minestry or ordinance being heerof lawfully convicted shall forfeite and pay to the vse of the collonie ten shillings for euery default."³ The next year a penalty of ten shillings was imposed for neglecting public worship or assembling at a place upon any pretense whatsoever "in any way contrary to God and the allowance of the gouernment tending to the subversion of Religion and churches."⁴ In 1655 the General Court provided that "such as shall deney the Scriptures to bee a rule of life shall receiue Corporall punishment according to the descretion of the Majestrate soe as it shall not extend to life or Limb."⁵ And with commendable zeal that the minister should not be without oil in his lamps, the General Court recommended in 1662 to the towns "where Gods Prouidence shall cast any whales" that they should agree to set apart some part "of euery such fish or oyle for the Incurragement of an able Godly Minnester amongst them."⁶ But all matters pertaining to the forms of church service were the exclusive concern of the church.

¹ *Sheldon vs. Congregational Parish in Easton*, 24 Pick. 281.

² *Avery vs. Tyringham*, 3 Mass. 160.

³ Plymouth Colony Records, xi. 57.

⁴ xi. 57-58.

⁵ xi. 64.

⁶ xi. 207-208.

The church at Plymouth used Ainsworth's version of the Psalms, entitled "The Book of Psalmes: Englished both in Prose and Metre," until 1692. Longfellow in the *Courtship of Myles Standish*, describes Priscilla as seated beside her wheel and —

Open wide on her lap lay the well-worn psalm-book of Ainsworth,
Printed in Amsterdam, the words and the music together,
Rough-hewn, angular notes, like stones in the wall of a churchyard,
Darkened and overhung by the running vine of the verses.

The edition here referred to was "Imprinted at Amsterdam, By Giles Thorp. A^o. Dⁱ. 1612."

On May 17, 1685, the elders stayed the church after public worship was ended, and "moved to sing Psalm: 130: in another Translation, because in M^r Ainsworths Translation which wee sang, the tune was soe difficult few could follow it, the chh readily consented thereunto." On August 7, 1692, the church voted unanimously that "when the tunes are difficult in the Translation wee use, wee will sing the Psalmes now used in our neighbor-ches in the Bay." This was "The Bay Psalm Book," printed first at Cambridge in 1640 and sometimes known as "The New England Version."

As early as 1681 the practice of reading the psalm line by line for the people to sing, was first introduced. At a church meeting held February 10, 1681, the elders told the church that "a Brother earnestly desired the Psalmes might be read in publick worship, because else he was incapable of practising that ordinance." The church hesitated to make this innovation in the old custom and desired the pastor to show from the Scriptures the lawfulness of reading the psalm in order to singing. The pastor considered the subject for more than six months and then (on September 18) showed the lawfulness and necessity of reading the psalm, and two weeks later (October 2, 1681) it was decided, although not without opposition, that the reading of the psalms was lawful and the practice was adopted of the elder's reading the psalm and the pastor's expounding the psalm before singing.

In several meetings in 1770 and 1771 the church considered changing the version of the Psalms which were sung in public worship.¹ For some years the versions of Dr. Watts and of Tait and

¹ See the meetings held on January 28, February 1, 11, 13, December 19, 1770, January 6, 1771, and March 21, 1786: pp. 332-336, 366, below.

Brady had been on trial. The church was divided; some strongly in favor of Dr. Watts's version, and others bitterly opposed, and it was decided, subject to the approval of the congregation, that Tait and Brady's version be hereafter sung in public worship, and also, that the hymns annexed to that version, mainly by Dr. Watts, be made use of. But it was voted in 1786 that Dr. Watts's "*Version of the Psalms, & Hymns united, be sung in future.*"

It is a curious illustration of the bitterness of the feeling as to the use of the hymns by Dr. Watts that on May 1, 1776, one of the deacons was brought to trial before the church charged with saying that "when Dr Watts composed his Hymns, he was under the Influence of y^e Devil." The church handled the matter ingeniously and voted that it was proved the deacon "said so with respect to his *Psalms*, tho not Hymns." The deacon expressed his regret that he used such an expression, if he did use it, and the church accepted his qualified apology and voted to forgive him.¹

From the time of Mr. Cotton's settlement, the records of the church were kept by the ministers and during his ministry the practice began, which was followed by all his successors, of giving in full detail the names of communicants of the church and persons admitted to membership, and also full lists of the baptisms and deaths of members, which will be found of especial interest to genealogists and antiquarians.² The pastors of the church also kept full records of the ecclesiastical councils and ordinations to which the church was invited and was represented by its minister and delegates.³ The minute reports of the numerous cases in the church which required investigation and trial present some curious cases of church discipline, where the penalty varied from a warning or temporary suspension of privileges to formal dismissal and excommunication.⁴

Mr. Cotton introduced (or revived) in 1669 the practice of cate-

¹ See pp. 350, 351, below.

² Curiously enough, no marriages were recorded until 1760, when Mr. Robbins began the practice.

³ The dates of some early ordinations are to be found in these records only.

⁴ Cf. Charles Francis Adams's paper on church discipline in New England (2 Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society, vi. 477-516). "I have alluded," he said, "to the early church records of Plymouth as probably offering a peculiarly interesting field of inquiry in this matter. I have never seen those records, and know nothing of them" (p. 510). These records fully bear out Mr. Adams's opinion as to their probable value.

chizing children, using at first the catechism composed by the Rev. William Perkins, and later (in 1678) the Assembly's catechism was adopted. It was also during his ministry that the change was made from the Ainsworth Psalm Book to the New England Psalm Book, before referred to.

In June, 1676, in compliance with the request of the General Court that "all our churches renew their covenant engagement to God for Reformation of all provoking evils," the church met and voted that the following covenant should be left upon record as that which they "did own to be the substance of that Covenant which their Fathers' entered into at the first gathering of the Church:"

In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ & in obedience to his holy will & divine ordinances.

Wee being by the most wise & good providence of God brought together in this place & desirous to unite our selves into one congregation or church under the Lord Jesus Christ our Head, that it may be in such sort as becometh all those whom He hath redeemed & sanctified to himselfe, wee doe hereby solemnly & religiously (as in his most holy prescence) avouch the Lord Jehovah the only true God to be our God & the God of ours & doe promise & binde ourselves to walke in all our wayes according to the Rule of the Gospel & in all sincere conformity to His holy ordinances & in mutuall love to & watchfullnesse over one another, depending wholly & only upon the Lord our God to enable us by his grace hereunto.¹

Some differences having arisen in the church, Mr. Cotton resigned and at his request was dismissed on October 5, 1697. The reasons for Mr. Cotton's resignation do not clearly appear in the church records. It is suggested that a difference of opinion between the pastor and his church as to the position taken by Mr. Isaac Cushman, who accepted an invitation to preach over the "upper society," since called Plympton,² before his designation to office of ruling elder by the church, was the principal cause for Mr. Cotton's later withdrawal. Judge Sewall in his Diary gives an interesting account of his visit to Plymouth in March, 1698, and his interviews with

¹ See p. 148, below.

² The Plympton church, to which Mr. Cushman was called in 1695 and over which he was ordained on October 27, 1698, was the fourth offshoot of the Plymouth Church.

Mr. Cotton and members of the church, which suggests some more serious grounds for Mr. Cotton's resignation.¹ He remained in Plymouth for a year after his withdrawal from his pastorate and then accepted a call to the church at Charleston, South Carolina, having made up all differences as his grandson, John Cotton, says with the Plymouth church, and receiving a recommendation from several ministers. He sailed for Charleston on the 16th of November, 1698, and died there after a brief but successful ministry, on the 18th of September, 1699. The Charleston church erected in token of their respect, a monument over his grave in that city, and the Plymouth church erected a monument to his memory on Burial Hill. From a diary kept by Josiah Cotton, son of the Rev. John Cotton of Plymouth, Dr. James Thacher copied an account of the life of this Plymouth minister, in which it is stated:

He had a vast and strong memory, and was a living index to the Bible. . . . He sometimes preached in the Indian language, and he corrected the second and last edition of the Indian bible. . . . He was a competent scholar, but divinity was his favorite study. He discharged the work of the ministry to good acceptance, both in public and in private, and was very desirous of the conversion of souls. He ruled his house like a tender parent; was a hearty friend, helpful to the needy, kind to strangers and doubtless a good man. And yet, what man is there without his failings?²

He was succeeded by the Rev. Ephraim Little, who after two years' probation was ordained in 1699 and continued as the minister of the church until his death on the 24th of November, 1723. It may be noted that Mr. Little was the first minister of the church to be buried on Burial Hill. Since the landing of the Pilgrims only one other minister, the Rev. Chandler Robbins, rests in that graveyard beside the church.

The meeting of the church council in 1706 to hear the complaints of members of the church in Middleboro of the intemperance and excessive drinking of the minister of that church, shows the limited power and authority of church councils and that the particular province of the church council was to advise and not direct, and that

¹ Sewall, *Diary*, i. 472-473. Cf. C. Mather, *Diary*, i. 79, 194, 236, 237, 277, 319; Sibley, *Harvard Graduates*, i. 496-508.

² *History of the Town of Plymouth* (1832), p. 302.

the right to terminate the pastoral relations between minister and church was vested in the parish alone. Delegates from four churches heard the complaint and adjudged the charges to be proved and then "advised him to make a peaceable and Ordrely Secession" from the church, and advised the church to dismiss him with such expressions of love and charity as became the Gospel. Then those members of the church who were dissatisfied with the advice of the council called a second council of twelve churches. Twelve pastors and twenty-two delegates assembled in response to the call and concurred with the former council.¹

Mr. Little is described as a "gentleman more inclined to the active than the studious life; but should be remembered for his useful services as a minister, and for his exemplary life and conversation, being one of good memory, a quick invention, having an excellent gift in prayer, and in occasional performances also excelling."²

The records of the church during Mr. Cotton's and Mr. Little's ministries contain many references to the general fasts and particular fasts observed by the church. The general fasts were fasts, throughout the province, held in accordance with the requirements of the General Court, and particular fasts were those limited to the church itself, and the speedy answers to the prayers of the church were often noted with pious satisfaction.

In the administration of the right of baptism, a difference of opinion existed in the practice of the ministers. Mr. Little held that if the mother was in full communion, the child was undeniably a proper subject of baptism. For the first time in the history of the church, the pastor performed the right of baptism privately by baptizing on July 19, 1718, one Ephraim Holmes, who being at the point of death was baptized in his own house, and justifies the proceedings by the following memorandum in the record:

I nev^r could find that baptism (viz. the administration of it) is any where in scripture Limited To y^e sabbath or a public Assembly, & I always had a great^r regard to y^e Scripture than the Custome or practice of any Minister or Church.

¹ See p. 203, below.

² In Thacher, *History of Plymouth*, p. 306, where the passage is quoted from John Cotton's Account, in which it "is extracted from some Manuscript Memoirs, written by one contemporary with him" (p. 24).

- (1) I cant find it Limit^d To sabbath in y^e Scripture.
 (2) nor To a publick Assembly:
 1: not to y^e sabbath.¹

During Mr. Little's pastorate two churches were set off from the ancient church, one in the year 1717 in the north part of the town, now Kingston, which was the fifth church;² another in 1738 at Manomet or Monument Ponds, which was the sixth church³ founded by members of the original First Church.

On the 29th of July, 1724, the Rev. Nathaniel Leonard of Norton, who had been chosen to succeed Mr. Little on the 13th of February, 1724, was ordained as minister. The formal letters of invitation were sent to the neighboring churches, requesting the presence of minister and delegates to the ministerial council and ordination. Mr. Leonard notes in his record the names of fifty-four male communicants or members of the church, and one hundred and one females, at the time of his ordination. The house which he built and occupied on the southerly side of Leyden Street is still standing, the oldest parsonage house now remaining in Plymouth.

As a result of the preachings of Andrew Croswell,⁴ a revival minister, with whom Mr. Leonard was in sympathy as he permitted him to preach in his pulpit,⁵ differences arose in the church and Josiah Cotton, son of the Rev. John Cotton of Plymouth, propounded certain queries, one of which at least was aimed directly at Mr. Croswell's methods and preachings. The church met to consider the problem "Whether a sudden and short distress, and as sudden joy, amounts to the repentance described and required. (2 Corin. vii. 9-11.)."⁶ No formal decision was made by the church, but as a result of these church dissensions some of the society who were bitterly opposed to Mr. Leonard withdrew from

¹ P. 218, below.

² The organization of the fourth church at Plympton has already been noted (p. xxxi note 2, above).

³ Manomet is still part of Plymouth, and the church at Manomet is the Second Church of Plymouth.

⁴ Andrew Croswell was born at Charlestown in 1709; graduated at Harvard College in 1728; was ordained at Groton, Connecticut, in 1738; was installed over the Congregational Church in School Street, Boston, in October, 1748; and died in Boston April 12, 1785. He was a noted controversialist.

⁵ Mr. Leonard also attended Mr. Croswell's installation at Boston in 1748.

⁶ Thacher, *History of Plymouth*, pp. 309-310.

the church and in 1744 organized the third Congregational society within the town, which was the seventh church formed from the First Church. This church, known as the Third Church, continued as a separate organization until 1784, when it re-united during the pastorate of Mr. Robbins with the old First Church.¹

Mr. Leonard's health failing in 1757 he asked to be dismissed from his pastoral relation, which was assented to by the church with the understanding that it was not to be formally completed until his successor had been settled. When his successor was ordained on January 30, 1760, Mr. Leonard was present at the ordination and came from his home in Norton, to which he had removed in 1757, took part in the exercises of the ordination, and secured the formal dismissal from his pastorate, the church "at the same Time acknowledging it is a great Favour of Heaven, that we have enjoyed his Labours So long. Viz. For near three & thirty Years: In this Time we have found him a diligent, zealous, faithful Minister of Jesus Christ."²

After the dismissal of Mr. Leonard, the church heard many candidates and made several unsuccessful attempts to settle a minister. Invitations to clergymen in other places to become the minister of the church at Plymouth for one reason or another had been declined and after all hopes faded, the Rev. Chandler Robbins of Branford, Connecticut, was invited to preach as a candidate, and on October 30, 1759, the church chose him as Mr. Leonard's successor, but required that he should declare his assent and consent to the New England Confession of Faith or exhibit one in writing to the satisfaction of the church. Mr. Robbins accepted the call after a public declaration before the church and congregation of his assent and consent to the New England Confession, and on the 30th of January, 1760, was ordained as the minister of the First Church.

On June 11, 1761, Mr. Leonard died at Norton and the church records, quoting from the public prints, pay tribute to his memory: "He was a Man of considerable natural Abilities (as well of acquired

¹ There have been two societies in Plymouth, each called the Third Church. The first of these lasted, as stated in the text, from 1744 to 1784, when it was re-united with the First Church; the second was organized in 1801.

² P. 325, below.

Accomplishments,) of a clear Head, Solid judgment, penetrating Tho't, Excelling in Conference and in giving Counsel & Advice in difficult Cases."¹

On December 19, 1770, Mr. Robbins called the church together to consider some matters of importance relative to church discipline, etc. The following question was proposed by him for consideration by the church: "Whither it be the Opinion of this Chh that the half way Practice of owning or entering into Covenant [without coming into full communion], which has of late years, been adopted by this Chh, be a scriptural Method — or a practice warranted by s^d Word of God, & so to be persisted in?"²

To this half-way practice Mr. Robbins was strenuously opposed; the church was divided. Mr. John Cotton³ was a zealous supporter and advocate of the practice which permitted persons owning or renewing the covenant to have baptism for their children without coming into full communion. At several church meetings he delivered some essays on this important question as he termed it, and later printed the essays with some vigorous and at times bitter letters which passed between Mr. Robbins and himself. The controversy continued during Mr. Robbins's ministry and was one of the contributing causes which led to the withdrawal of some members of the church shortly after Dr. Kendall's settlement, and to the organization of the Third Church in Plymouth.⁴ The issues involved have lost much of their interest to-day and it is not material nor practical to state at length the theological arguments on the one side or the other which the stout champions presented. The curious reader will find in the records,⁵ in the little volume of Mr. Cotton's above referred to, and in the other pamphlets published by the disputants, an interesting discussion of the disputed points and a striking illustration of the importance attached to a now forgotten matter of dispute.

The practice of the church from the beginning seemed to sustain the position of Mr. Cotton. That this practice met with the approval of his "grandfather Cotton, the former minister of this

¹ Pp. 326–327, below.

² P. 335, below.

³ For this John Cotton, see p. xxii note 1, above.

⁴ That is, the second Third Church, organized in 1801.

⁵ Pp. 334–345, below.

church," he finds by the manuscript written by his grandfather's "own hand." To the suggestion —

"That we received this practice by *tradition* from our Fathers without *examination*, and have gone on in a *loose way* without being able to give any good reason for it." I answer, that neither our Fathers introduced it, nor we received it in this light manner. The question was started in the country soon after *grand-children* were born to the first comers, and the point agitated for twenty or thirty years by the ablest Divines, until at last the *Synod* of all the Ministers and churches, came to a solemn decision about it in the year 1662, after much prayer, study, and converse, and gave such weighty reasons for it as were never yet answered. Neither did many of their posterity receive it thus lightly: Mr. *Leonard* in particular had occasion and thoroughly studied the controversy, as appeared by several sermons on the point; and the same may be said of many others.¹

Nathaniel Morton, writing of the ordination of Mr. Francis Higginson and Mr. Samuel Skelton at Salem in 1629, states the practice clearly and simply as follows:

The two Ministers there being seriously studious of Reformation, they considered of the state of their Children, together with their Parents; concerning which, Letters did pass between Mr. *Higginson*, and Mr. *Brewster* the reverend Elder of the church of *Plimouth*, and they did agree in their judgements, *viz.* concerning the *Church-Membership* of the Children with their parents, and that Baptism was a seal of their *Membership*, only when they were Adult, they being not scandalous, they were to be examined by the *Church-Officers*, and upon their approbation of their fitness, and upon the Childrens publick and personal owning of the Covenant, they were to be received unto the Lords Supper. Accordingly Mr. *Higginson's* eldest Son, being about fifteen years of age, was owned to have been received a member together with his Parents, and being privately examined by the Pastor, Mr. *Skelton*, about his knowledge in the principles of Religion, he did present him before the Church when the Lords supper was to be Administred, and the Childe then publickly and personally owning the Covenant of the God of his Father, he was admitted unto the Lords supper: it being then professedly owned, according to 1 *Cor.* 7. 14. that the Children of the Church are holy unto the Lord as well as their Parents, Accordingly, the Parents

¹ General Practice of the Churches of New England relating to Baptism, Vindicated [1772], pp. 20–21.

owning and retaining the Baptism, which they themselves received in their Infancy, in their Native Land, as they had any Children born, Baptism was administred unto them.¹

The reason Plymouth Church did not join the Synod was mainly because that church "was without a minister ten years together about that time."

It seems undisputed that Mr. Leonard adopted the practice for which Mr. Cotton contended, but it was objected that he had great difficulty in bringing in the practice and was seven years about it, which delay was due to his prudence, for he waited until he gained the acquiescence of all. This was in accordance with the ancient practice and constitution of the church, for in the records we find that they would not vote in affairs of importance, especially in alterations of any part of worship, until they had gained the consent of every brother, at least so far as to acquiesce in the church procedure.

The whole correspondence between the minister and Mr. Cotton was marked with bitterness. Mr. Robbins describes Mr. Cotton's "*last Piece*" as a "most *injuriously, unchristian, ungentleman-like, gross, misrepresentation* of the sentiments of your brethren." This was bad enough, but it did not disturb Mr. Cotton's sensitive feelings as did the suggestion that his (Cotton's) opinions tended "to establish the most dangerous tenets of the *Arminians*," to which he replies, "Mr. Robbins, I must tell you, I scorn the charge," and later returns to the attack with the assertion that "there is no more connexion between this practice and Arminianism than between it and atheism," and closes his argument on that point with the assertion "Methinks the boldest face may be justly ashamed ever to mention it any more." Mr. Robbins offered to "bury the hatchet and forget and forgive and for the future to live in love and peace."

The settlement of the difficulty appeared to Mr. Cotton as "a further insult" and not a retraction or acknowledgment, and the controversy proceeded with his fourth and last essay² in which he proposed that "the church, by a *formal vote*, adopt the method I proposed the last town meeting, *viz.* for a neighbouring Minister to

¹ New Englands Memorall (1669), pp. 77-79.

² That is, the fourth and last essay in Mr. Cotton's first pamphlet. For the titles of the four pamphlets printed (two by Mr. Cotton and two by Mr. Robbins), see pp. lvi and note 2, lvii and note 1, below.

baptize the children of the church, as long as Mr. *Robbins's* scruples remain. . . . We are willing to give him liberty of conscience; and expect the same liberty from him. And should think it hard, if he endeavours to prevent any Minister's coming."¹ The town never voted on Mr. Cotton's proposal, and the church at its meeting on June 30, 1772, voted to drop the affair for the present and "to reassume the further Consideration thereof, when they shall think it proper or necessary." The suggestion, however, in time became adopted in practice, and those children who failed to meet with the minister's strict requirements were baptized by a more liberal preacher on the occasion of some of Mr. Robbins's infrequent exchanges.

The church was not only divided on matters of practice and dogma, but also was not in complete accord on the issues presented by the Revolutionary War. Mr. Robbins was a sturdy patriot and served from time to time with the Revolutionary forces at Dorchester as chaplain, but some of the leading citizens of the town were not in sympathy with the demands for independence and separation from the mother country. Deacon Foster was brought before the church charged *inter alia* that his political conduct and practice were just matters of offence, that he "discovers a Willingness to have this Country enslaved," and "is an Advocate for ye Destructive Doctrines of Positive Obedience & Non Resistance."

On July 17, 1776, at the hearing upon the charges against Deacon Foster, it was urged against him that he looked upon those of the brethren who were opposed to him in political opinions as rebels and deserving of punishment, and he being unwilling to make any recantation, it was voted almost unanimously that they could not contentedly communicate with him at the Lord's table. At the deacon's request the meeting was adjourned for further deliberation, without proceeding to his formal suspension from the Communion, and before final action was taken Deacon Foster died of small-pox in January, 1777.

Another of the brethren explained his non-attendance upon church worship upon the ground that "The people of the town in general treated him in contempt, calling him a Tory."

¹ The extracts in the text are from Mr. Cotton's first pamphlet, *The general Practice of the Churches of New-England, relating to Baptism, Vindicated* [1772], pp. 20-21, 34, 36, 41, 72-73.

In 1794 a committee of the church and a committee of the parish were appointed to meet and prepare a form of admission to the church and confession of faith. Dr. Robbins proposed a plan which met the approval of his committee but the committee of the parish would not concur. The confession of faith, as stated by Dr. Robbins and adopted by the church in June, 1795, contained fourteen articles, agreeing in substance with the six principles of William Perkins.

The records of the church during Dr. Robbins's term of service contain a larger number of cases of church discipline than are to be found in the records kept by any other of the pastors of the church. A scholarly, learned and devout minister, possessing the confidence and respect of all his congregation and the affection of many, he had positive ideas as to the duties and responsibilities of pastor and church to its erring members. The morals as well as the religious beliefs of the members of his parish were subjects of his interest and care. He thoroughly believed in the propriety and importance of public admonitions and public confessions,¹ and while he tempered justice with mercy as he understood it, in the cases of those of his flock who were prepared to retract their errors and confess their sins and show repentance, he did not hesitate to proceed to the severest measures which it was possible for a church to take.

On July 1, 1798, he pronounced formal sentence of excommunication upon one member of his church: "I declare him to belong *visibly* to the sinful & woful Kingdom of Satan, the Ruler of the Darkness of this World. I declare him to be a Person, from whom Christians, the followers of our holy Lord are to 'withdraw themselves, as from one that walks disorderly.' And this just Sentence, now passed upon him, by the Church in the Name & by the Authority of Christ, is but a Prelude & Representation of a Sentence, far more dreadful to be passed upon him, in the Day when the Lord Jesus Christ shall come to judge the world."²

Upon the re-union of the Third and First churches in 1784, Dr. Robbins became the pastor of a parish including within its limits the town of Plymouth excepting only the precinct of Manomet Ponds, and until his death on June 30, 1799, he was, with the ex-

¹ See the reasons given by himself in 1771 for recording confessions, pp. 287-288, below.

² P. 520, below.

ception of the pastor of that outlying precinct, the only settled minister in the town. Whatever dissatisfaction existed with Dr. Robbins's strictness in religious and parochial matters was undoubtedly held in check during his term of service by the affection and respect which the members of his parish entertained for him and no formal action looking towards a division of the church was had, although it is probable that a majority of the church were not entirely in sympathy with his attitude upon some matters of discipline and practice.

Until 1788 he occupied the parsonage on the northerly side of Leyden Street, which stands on a portion of the lot presented to the church by the widow and son of Dr. Samuel Fuller of the Mayflower, who for many years was a deacon of the church. This parsonage house is still standing and was occupied by his successor, Dr. Kendall. The following memorandum appears in the church records:

Lord's Day June 30th 1799, died, after a long and distressing illness, The Rev^d Chandler Robbins DD. The justly & highly esteemed & greatly beloved Pastor of this Church; to the great and inexpressible loss of his bereaved flock, and his other numerous acquaintance. After having faithfully and indefatigably laboured in this part of the Lords vineyard, nearly forty years, it pleased his Divine Master to release him from his service here, & to call him home to receive a gracious reward.¹

The last entry made by Dr. Robbins on the church records was the record of the meeting of February 12, 1799. The moderator of the next meeting, held November 4, 1799, records the choice of a minister by the church to succeed Dr. Robbins by a vote of twenty-three for Mr. James Kendall and "fifteen were not for him." The parish voted to concur with the church by a vote of 253 in the affirmative and 15 in the negative. Mr. Kendall's answer to the call given him by the church on the 4th of November, 1799, is recorded in full in the records. He was born at Sterling, November 3, 1769, and was nearly fitted to enter Harvard College at the early age of fourteen, but on account of serious trouble with his eyes, attributed to the closeness of his application to the study of Greek in the evening, he was not permitted to enter college until 1792. He was graduated in the class of 1796 with high rank and in 1798

¹ P. 623, below.

became a tutor of Greek in the College, and later received the degree of A.M. in course and of S.T.D. in 1825. He was the first candidate invited to preach in Plymouth after the death of Dr. Robbins and preached his first sermon as candidate on October 13, 1799. Dr. Thomas Robbins, a nephew of Dr. Chandler Robbins, notes in his diary of that day: "Heard Mr. Kendall preach. He appears to be an Arminian in full. A very great congregation here."¹

Without attempting to analyze minutely the differences between the distinguishing tenets of the Arminians and those of the Calvinists, it is sufficient to say that the Arminians regarded the doctrines of Calvin with regard to free will, predestination, and grace as too severe, and adopted a religious system which extends the love of the Supreme Being and the "merits of Jesus Christ" to all mankind.

For thirty-eight years Dr. Kendall was the sole pastor of the First Church and after the settlement of his colleague, the Rev. George W. Briggs, he preached frequently as the senior pastor of the church in his own and other pulpits. He died on March 17, 1859, after a ministry of nearly sixty years, leaving "the memory of the pious pastor, the lover of peace, the promoter of good will among men, the steadfast christian friend, who in his daily life, so well exemplified their [the Pilgrims'] virtues, and their all sustaining faith."² He published many sermons and addresses. Eleven years after his death Governor Clifford at his speech on the Pilgrim anniversary in 1870, gracefully referred to "the saintlike aspect, the serene presence, and the mellifluous voice of another divine of a later age, the worthy successor of John Robinson and Elder Brewster, the Reverend Dr. Kendall."³

The church sent invitations to fourteen churches, to President Willard of Harvard College, and the Rev. Dr. David Tappan, Professor of Divinity, to be present at his ordination. The ecclesiastical council met at Plymouth on the 31st of December, 1799, nine churches being represented. A remonstrance against ordaining him as pastor of the church was presented to the council by three members,

¹ Diary (1886), i. 99.

² These words were used when presenting to Dr. Kendall a casket containing \$400 from friends in Boston and vicinity on January 1, 1850: see his Discourse delivered on that day, p. 24.

³ Proceedings, etc. (1871), pp. 140-141.

who said they represented fifteen male members. The council, after due consideration and giving the remonstrance its full weight, voted that they were ready to comply with the request of the First Church of Christ in Plymouth, expressed in their letters missive, and proceeded with the ordination. On January 1, 1800, Mr. Kendall was solemnly ordained to the work of the Gospel ministry and pastor of the First Church of Christ in Plymouth.

On the 17th of September, 1801, a meeting of the church was held and a request was submitted by one of the brethren that all the members, male and female, that wished be dismissed from their relations with the First Church, be formed into a new church by the name of the Third Church of Christ in Plymouth, and that any member who desires hereafter a dismissal from either church to join the other one, be dismissed and recommended to the other. And further, that an equal proportion of the church furniture according to the numbers of the Third Church be granted to that church.

On the 24th of September the church again met for further consideration of this request. The petitioners explained that they had nothing further in view than that the removal of relations from one church to the other in the future be regulated according to the usual practice of this and other Congregational churches in New England, and they relinquished their claims to the church furniture, being convinced that as it was given to the First Church the present members were not exclusively entitled to it, and therefore had no right to the disposal of it. They asked only for the privilege of using it a certain time until it was convenient for them to furnish their own table.

A petition was presented, signed by eighteen males and thirty-five females, asking that they be dismissed from their present relations to the First Church in order to be set off into a distinct church by the name of the Third Church in Plymouth, and the request was assented to unanimously. Then the church voted to grant the privilege of using the communion service for two years. So without apparent bitterness, with singular unanimity, their church was established in Plymouth with substantially the same provision as to the admission and recommendation of members as was made when the church in Leyden was divided, and the members of that church

who "went should be an absolute church of themselves as well as those who staid."

The Legislature by an act passed March 1, 1802, incorporated by name 144 men and 8 women with their "polls and estates" into a parish by the name of the Third Congregational Society in Plymouth.¹ The third precinct or parish which was first established in 1744 had been re-united with the first parish by the act of March 20, 1784. The original petition for this act of incorporation in 1801, which is preserved in the State archives, bases the application for a charter upon five reasons which were given as follows:

1st [That the petitioners had] Erected a new building for public worship in which a respectable Congregation has Attended for more than one Year.

2^d That fifty three members of the first Church have been regularly dismiss^d from that Church which was nearly one half of its members & have formed into Church estate by the name of the 3^d Church of Christ in plymouth, who with others of your petitioners Cannot Concientously unite in public worship with those from whom they Seperated.

3^d That the precinct is too numerous to worship in One house as it consists of 3040² Souls & more than 500 rateable poles, & being so numerous the people cannot be Accommodated with Seats in one house.

4th That your petitioners have to Support not only their public teacher, but have to pay to support the minister of the first precinct.

5th Considering the extent of the precinct & numerous Inhabitants your petitioners think the present pastor inadequate to perform the requirements of his office To the whole.

The number of inhabitants of the town, the fact that there were more than 500 adult males which made it impossible, if there was that general desire on the part of the people to attend divine worship which it had been assumed existed in earlier days, for the existing meeting-house to hold the possible worshippers, might of itself justify the establishment of another society within the limits of the town. That the theological differences which existed were more minute and technical than substantial, appears in the report of the committee, which was accepted by the town, to which was referred the application of some of the petitioners for the sale to them of a part of the

¹ Acts and Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1801 (1897), pp. 342-344.

² Perhaps "3044."

Training Green belonging to the town upon which to erect their meeting-house. The committee said in part in its report to the town on the 5th of April, 1800:

To comply with the request of the applicants by granting a lot in Training Green for the purpose mentioned would, in the opinion of your committee, not only preclude the town, under whatever circumstances it may be, from opposing the prosecution of that object, but would sanction the separation of a small number of persons on principles that do not appear to be substantial and well-founded. If religious societies are to be split up into divisions merely from a variance of sentiment in certain polemic speculations, about which the greatest and best men in all ages of the Christian church have differed, each Christian must consecrate his own dwelling as his sanctuary, for scarcely two of the best informed Christians can be found precisely to agree on every controverted point.

The church records during Mr. Kendall's ministry relate mainly to church meetings and election of church officers and delegates to the various ordinations and councils to which the church was invited. The records of baptisms, marriages,¹ and deaths were kept in full as was the custom of his predecessors. Dr. Robbins on January 1, 1799, recorded a list of members of the church who were admitted before he came to Plymouth and a list of all members admitted during the term of his settlement, and the list of admissions to and dismissions from the church was continued and kept by his successor.

The rigor of church discipline which had prevailed in the past was much relaxed and may be attributed in part to a less strict and formal compliance with disputed points of doctrine which had divided the church members in former years, as well as to the political, social, and economic changes which these changing years brought.

But few cases of discipline are recorded in the later records, and in most cases diligent effort was made by the appointment of committees and others instructed to wait on the delinquents and persuade them to correct the objectionable practices, without enforcing the severity of church discipline.

In July, 1823, it was voted to alter the terms and conditions of becoming members of the church and enjoying Christian privileges,

¹ Cf. p. xxx and note 2, above.

in order to render them more in accordance with the requirements of the Gospel and more agreeable to apostolic practice, and more in accordance with the usage of this ancient church for one hundred and seventy-five years.

It was noted that in the year 1795 a departure from the ancient usage was introduced by adopting a written creed or confession as a condition of admission to the Christian ordinances, and it was determined that that was in fact a departure from the practice of the church from the time of our forefathers and from the first principle of Protestantism, which is a sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for all the purposes of faith and practice. Instead, therefore, of continuing to make a public acknowledgment of this creed a condition of enjoying fellowship and communion in the future, it was voted unanimously to return to the former practice of the church in this respect and adopt the covenant made use of by the church previous to the years 1795. The original church covenant was as follows:

You do (now) in the presence of God, in the presence of his holy Angels, and in the presence of this solemn assembly, this day avouch the Lord Jehovah, the only living and the true, God, to be your God, and to give up yourself to him alone, acknowledging God the Father be your Father and Sovereign: And giving yourself unto the Lord Jesus Christ as your only Priest and atonement, as your only Prophet and Guide, as your only King and Lawgiver; and to the Holy Spirit of God as your only Sanctifier and Comforter; and also giving up yourself to this Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, You do solemnly promise by the help of his grace to walk with God and this his Church, in ways of holy Communion, and due subjection to all his holy ordinances, and according to his will, revealed in his holy word.¹

It was also voted that written relations should no longer be required as a term of admission to Christian ordinances, but that it should be optional with the applicant to communicate his request in writing or verbally through the pastor.

The word "Unitarian" does not appear in the records earlier than June, 1828, when a letter was communicated from the Second Congregational Unitarian Society in New York, requesting the aid of this church by their pastor and delegate at the ordination of Mr. William Parsons Lunt over said society.² Prior to that time many

¹ Pp. 574-575, below.

² P. 579, below.

churches, to which this church was invited to send delegates to the ordinations or meetings of ecclesiastical councils, were not referred to as Unitarian churches but uniformly as Congregational churches or by their proper legal title. That the distinctive name of Unitarian was not adopted by the First Parish although its affiliations with that denomination existed in fact, is shown by the organization on February 14, 1831, of a religious society in the town under the name of the "Unitarian Society." On May 16, 1831, that society elected the Rev. James H. Bugbee for their teacher for the year ensuing. At that time Mr. Bugbee was the minister of the Universalist Society in Plymouth. It had a brief existence, the date of the last entry in its record being April 30, 1833.

On the 15th of June, 1837, the church again voted unanimously to adopt the following provision and declaration as the form and condition in the future of admission to the church and of partaking of the ordinances of the Gospel:

Believing the scriptures of the Old and New Testament to contain the word of God, and to be the only and sufficient rule of faith and practice; it is my (or our sincere) desire and purpose of heart in professing this belief, in joining the Chh, and partaking of the Ordinances of the gospel by the aid of his grace to *live by the faith of the Son of God*, and thus to walk in all the Commandments and Ordinances of the Lord blameless.¹

This form it is stated, "being so much in harmony with the Simplicity that is in Christ and so conformable to the primative practice of the Chh, it is hoped and believed will tend to remove from the minds of sincere and devout persons, their reasonable objection against joining the Chh, and availing themselves of the satisfaction and benefit of enjoying the christian Ordinances."

On January 1, 1838, the Church unanimously voted to invite the Rev. George W. Briggs of Fall River to become an associate minister with the Rev. Dr. Kendall, and to "approve of the proceedings of the Parish at a meeting held on the thirteenth day of October last," whereby Mr. Briggs was invited to become colleague pastor with the Rev. Dr. Kendall. Twenty-six churches were invited to take part in the installation of Mr. Briggs on January 3 and were gen-

¹ Pp. 590-591, below.

erally represented by their pastors and delegates, two churches, defined as Unitarians, were included; the church at Fall River and the church at Buffalo. On December 31, 1852, the connection between the church and parish and the Rev. Mr. Briggs, at his particular request, was dissolved, after a continuance of fifteen years of great unanimity and satisfaction on the part of the society and unbroken harmony between the junior and senior pastors. Mr. Briggs accepted the invitation of the First Congregational Society in Salem to become its minister.

The parish records record an invitation to Mr. Henry L. Myrick to settle as a colleague with the Rev. Dr. Kendall, by vote of the parish on the 19th of May, 1853. For the first time the church does not appear to have voted on the settlement of a minister. Mr. Myrick accepted on July 9th, and a council was summoned by the First Church and Society in Plymouth for his ordination as associate pastor, which met at the Samoset House on the 21st of September, 1853. Ten churches were represented by pastors and delegates and voted to proceed with the ordination. The connection of the Rev. Mr. Myrick with the church as colleague pastor was dissolved at his request in September, 1854.

On April 8, 1855, the Rev. George S. Ball, late of Upton, commenced his supply of the pulpit for one year, as associate pastor of the First Church, by invitation of the First Parish through their committee; on March 1st, 1856, he was invited to settle as colleague pastor, and remained until April, 1857, when his connection was dissolved at his own request.

On the 8th of November, 1858, the Rev. Edward H. Hall was invited to become the associate pastor of the society. Mr. Hall accepted the invitation and was ordained on January 5, 1859, the senior pastor of the society making the ordaining prayer.

Dr. Kendall died honored and beloved on the 8th of March, 1859, and these volumes are completed with the last entry in the handwriting of the aged minister and his pastorate of nearly sixty years is finished:

A connexion formed under such favorable and auspicious circumstances — and with so much harmony and unanimity of feeling and expression — inspires the hope of and promises a result most favorable

Meeting House, Plymouth, Built 1683



1683

~~June 7-91~~

~~17th March~~



Built in the year 1683. Taken down 1744
45 feet by 40 - 16 in the walls. Scale
20 feet to an inch. It stood where
the first Church now stands.

MEE'TING HOUSE

Second Meeting-house, Plymouth, 1683-1744

Engraved for The Colonial Society of Massachusetts
from a drawing of unknown date

to the Christian growth and prosperity of this Chh. and Parish. Our desire & prayer are that this hope & this result may be realized.¹

The members of the First Church have worshipped in five meeting-houses. The first, erected in or about 1648, stood on the northerly side of the Town Square and remained until 1683, when it was taken down.²

During Mr. Cotton's ministry the second meeting-house was erected in 1683, nearly upon the site of the present meeting-house, although its front is believed to have been about twenty feet farther easterly. This building was taken down on July 3, 1744.³

The third meeting-house was raised during Mr. Leonard's ministry on July 17th, 1744, the congregation meeting in it for the first time on July 29th of that year. On April 10, 1831, the last religious service was performed in this building, which had stood for eighty-seven years. The text on the occasion was "Who is left among you that saw this house in its first glory? and how do ye see it now?"

¹ Pp. 718-719, below. The reference is to Mr. Edward H. Hall.

² The two earliest allusions to the first meeting-house appear to be the following. On December 4, 1647, a committee was chosen at a town meeting "to make the rate for comon charges being 3£ And allso 25 pounds for ye meeting house;" and on May 17, 1649, a town meeting was "holden at the meeting house" (Plymouth Town Records, i. 22, 28).

³ Two sketches of the second meeting-house are reproduced facing p. xlviii. When or by whom they were drawn is not known, but they came into my possession from the family of William S. Russell. The handwriting of the inscription underneath the lower sketch has not been identified. But the words "Meeting House Plymouth Built 1683," written above the upper sketch, are in the hand of Samuel Davis (1765-1829), as appears from a comparison of them with a manuscript volume now owned by the Boston Athenæum. This volume, with the printed label "Historical Extracts" on the back of the cover, contains entries about Plymouth made by Mr. Davis in the years 1810-1814. On p. 74 he mentions the second meeting-house, but makes no allusion to these sketches.

It is pertinent to add that it was Samuel Davis who, so far as is known, first used the term Pilgrim Fathers. In an ode written by Thomas Paine (later Robert Treat Paine, Jr.) for the anniversary of the Massachusetts Charitable Fire Society on May 29, 1795, we read:

But, lo, across th' Atlantic floods,
The Star-directed pilgrim sails!

In an ode written for the Boston celebration of Forefathers' Day on December 22, 1798, Mr. Paine employed the expressions "pilgrim man" and "heirs of Pilgrims." Mr. Davis's ode in which the term Pilgrim Fathers first occurs, was written for the Boston celebration of Forefathers' Day in 1799. See Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, xvii. 326, 331, xviii. 32-33.

(Haggai, ii. 3.) The next day the workmen began to take down the house.¹

The foundations of the fourth meeting-house were completed and the frame was raised during Dr. Kendall's ministry on June 2, 1831. On the 14th of December the new church was completed and solemnly dedicated to the worship and service of Almighty God. In the afternoon of the day of dedication the pews were all sold, except such as were reserved for the aged and paupers, for a sum more than sufficient to cover the expense of the new church and to pay the pewholders in the old house at the appraised value. This building stood until November 22, 1892, when it was destroyed by fire. The pastor notes a remarkable circumstance as an interposition of Providence that on the 22nd of November, 1831, during a severe tempest, the church was struck by lightning, the pinnacle of the church was destroyed, the plating forced from the column, and the granite pillar upon which it rested was removed.² No other damage was sustained by the tower. The body of the building was not injured, although several persons were within the tower at the time and two in the bell deck room, yet no one suffered the slightest injury.³

The corner-stone of the present meeting-house, the fifth, built of stone, was laid on June 29, 1896, and the dedication occurred on December 21, 1897.

The silver owned by the First Church has been fully described by Mr. E. Alfred Jones.⁴

ARTHUR LORD.

¹ A sketch of the third meeting-house is reproduced facing p. 288, below. When or by whom it was drawn has not been ascertained, but it also formerly belonged to Mr. Russell. In his *Historical Extracts*, mentioned in the previous note, Mr. Davis does not mention the sketch, but writes: "The model of this House seems to have been taken from the Old Brick Church which formerly stood in Cornhill Boston. . . . The Bird on the spire is of copper gilt — & was made at Boston by M^r Drowne" (p. 75). The allusions are to the meeting-house of the First Church, Boston, built after the fire of 1711, and to Shem Drowne.

² P. 584, below.

³ A reproduction of the fourth meeting-house faces p. 584, below.

⁴ *Old Silver of American Churches* (Letchworth, England, 1913), pp. 374-376.

LISTS OF PASTORS ASSOCIATE PASTORS, ELDERS, DEACONS, ETC.¹

1620-1859

PASTORS

CHRONOLOGICAL		ALPHABETICAL	
1629-1635	Ralph Smith	John Cotton	1669-1697
1636-1654	John Reyner	Edward Henry Hall	1859-1867
1669-1697	John Cotton	James Kendall	1800-1859
1699-1723	Ephraim Little	Nathaniel Leonard	1724-1760
1724-1760	Nathaniel Leonard	Ephraim Little	1699-1723
1760-1799	Chandler Robbins	John Reyner	1636-1654
1800-1859	James Kendall	Chandler Robbins	1760-1799
1859-1867	Edward Henry Hall	Ralph Smith	1629-1635

ASSOCIATE PASTORS

1838-1852	George Ware Briggs	George S. Ball	1855-1857
1853-1854	Henry Lewis Myrick	George Ware Briggs	1838-1852
1855-1857	George S. Ball	Edward Henry Hall	1859-1859
1859-1859	Edward Henry Hall	Henry Lewis Myrick	1853-1854

ELDERS

1620-1644	William Brewster	William Brewster	1620-1644
1649-1691	Thomas Cushman	Thomas Cushman	1649-1691
1699-1746	Thomas Faunce ²	Thomas Faunce	1699-1746

¹ Previous to Mr. Cotton's ministry, the dates are more or less conjectural.

In addition to the pastors in the list, all of whom were regularly settled, the following preached at different times, but were never settled: John Lyford, 1624-1625; — Rogers, 1628; Roger Williams, 1631-1634; John Norton, 1635-1636; Charles Chauncy, 1638-1641; James Williams, between 1654 and 1667; William Brinsmead, between 1654 and 1667. A Mr. Glover was apparently to come over in 1635, but died in London before his expected departure. There are allusions in the Plymouth Town Records to James Williams, who on September 16, 1663, was allowed £60 (i. 54); and to William Brinsmead under dates of December 27, 1665, February 5, and September 11, 1666 (i. 77, 78, 82).

In 1757 James Sproat, in 1759 Job Whitney, and in 1759 Nathaniel Potter were chosen pastors, but declined.

² On March 7, 1694, Thomas Faunce and Isaac Cushman were "nominated . . . for Elders" (p. 173, below). On June 16, 1695, the "matter of Elders being named, & then nominated, desired to give their answer, Bro: Faunce declined a

DEACONS ¹

CHRONOLOGICAL		ALPHABETICAL	
1620-1621	John Carver	John Atwood	1716-1754
1620-1633	Samuel Fuller	Nathaniel Atwood	1694-
1629-1633	Richard Masterson	Joseph Bartlett	1745-1783
1629-1633	Thomas Blossom	John Bishop	1797-1801
	John Doane	Thomas Blossom	1629-1633
	William Paddy	John Carver	1620-1621
	John Cook	Thomas Clark	1694-1697
-1669	John Dunham	Thomas Clark	1728-1728
1669-1687	Robert Finney	John Cook	
1669-1693	Ephraim Morton	Rosseter Cotton	1822-1837
1686-1699	Thomas Faunce	William Crombie	1777-1814
1694-1727	George Morton	Jonathan Diman	1784-1797
1694-	Nathaniel Atwood ²	John Doane	
1694-1697	Thomas Clark	Lemuel Drew	1812-1825
1716-1741	John Foster	John Dunham	-1669
1716-1754	John Atwood	Thomas Faunce	1686-1699
1728-1750	Haviland Torrey	Robert Finney	1669-1687

present acceptance of the call from sense of his owne unfinesse, Bro: Isaac Cushman desired further time of consideration; In which time our bretheren engaged in promoting a new society in our western præcincts, gave Bro: Cushman an earnest call to teach the word of God to them & desired our chh to consent thereto" (p. 177, below). Isaac Cushman accepted the call to the new society, which later became Plympton. On April 3, 1699, Thomas Faunce was again chosen elder, this time accepted, and was ordained October 4 (pp. 187, 189, below).

¹ Some of the dates are conjectural.

There is mention of "Deacon Rob^t Harlow" on May 12, 1751 (p. 447 below); of "Deacⁿ Nathaniel Warren" on February 26, 1767, and December 27, 1792 (pp. 396, 420, below); and of "Deacon Cornelius Holmes" on August 11, 1773 (p. 402, below). All three were presumably deacons of some other church.

Sylvanus Bartlett and Lemuel Bartlett were chosen deacons in 1777, but declined. (Pp. 352, 353, 354, below.)

In his Account of the Church (Appendix to Mr. Philemon Robbins's Sermon, 1760), Mr. John Cotton gave the names of the deacons down to 1760. In a copy of the Account owned by Mr. Lord, in the margin of p. 4 is written, in the hand of Mr. Cotton, "M^r James Hirst." There was a James Hirst (or Hurst) at Plymouth in the early days, but his name apparently does not occur in the church records, and the authority for Mr. Cotton's statement is unknown.

² Nathaniel Atwood is in the records variously called "Atwood" and "Wood." The date of his death is unknown. Whether he was the father of Deacon John Atwood, whose name also variously appears as "Atwood" and "Wood," has not been ascertained.

CHRONOLOGICAL

1728-1728 ¹	Thomas Clark
1745-1777	Thomas Foster
1745-1783	Joseph Bartlett
1754-1776	John Torrey
1777-1814	William Crombie
1784-1797	Jonathan Diman
1784-1818	Ephraim Spooner
1797-1801	John Bishop ²
1812-1825	Lemuel Drew
1818-1842	William Putnam Ripley
1822-1837	Rosseter Cotton
1832-1841	Ichabod Morton ³
1853-1863	William Shaw Russell
1853-1854	Thomas Russell

ALPHABETICAL

John Foster	1716-1741
Thomas Foster	1745-1777
Samuel Fuller	1620-1633
Richard Masterson	1629-1633
Ephraim Morton	1669-1693
George Morton	1694-1727
Ichabod Morton	1832-1841
William Paddy	
Wm. Putnam Ripley	1818-1842
Thomas Russell	1853-1854
William Shaw Russell	1853-1863
Ephraim Spooner	1784-1818
Haviland Torrey	1728-1750
John Torrey	1754-1776

¹ Haviland Torrey and Thomas Clark were chosen deacons on January 22, 1728, the choice was concurred on February 11, and they were "in the Name of the Chh desired . . . to Accept of that Office and take their places in the Deacons seat & be assisting with the other Deacons as Occasion shall require till they be Regularly Ordained." Haviland Torrey was duly ordained on December 29th, but Thomas Clark died on March 18th before ordination. (Pp. 237, 238, 239, below.)

² Exactly how long John Bishop remained deacon is uncertain. He was elected deacon on April 10, 1797 (p. 513, below). On March 6, 1800, he requested "to be dismissed from his office, as deacon, in this Chh," but "was prevailed with to withdraw his request" (p. 543, below). On September 24, 1801, a John Bishop was dismissed from the First Church to the Third Church (p. 547, below), and presumably this was Deacon John Bishop. At all events, there is no further allusion to John Bishop as deacon until January 6, 1812, when the church voted "to adjourn this meeting to first tuesday in Feb. for the purpose of making choice of a Deacon in the room of Dea. Bishop resigned some years since;" and on February 4 the adjourned meeting voted to "proceed to make choice of a Deaⁿ to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Deaⁿ Bishop" (p. 559, below). Yet his gravestone states that he died March 26, 1830, and that "he was Deacon of the Church 34 years" (Kingman, Epitaphs from Burial Hill, p. 165). Perhaps he became deacon of the Third Church in 1801.

³ Ichabod Morton resigned as deacon on February 19, 1841, and on October 23, 1842, at his own request, his connection with the First Church was dissolved. (Pp. 597, 598, below.)

After 1800 it clearly became difficult to induce members to accept the office of deacon, and vacancies remained unfilled for many years. On February 19, 1841, "It was then proposed to chose a substitute to fill his [I. Morton's] place in the Office of Deacon of the Chh. After some consultation — it was Voted to postpone the meeting indefinitely — for the purpose of selecting and agreeing on some suitable person among the brethren, who might be willing to accept the office, if chosen" (p. 597, below). Mr. Morton's resignation left the church with

MEETING-HOUSES

1648-1683	First
1683-1744	Second
1744-1831	Third
1831-1892	Fourth
1897	Fifth

OFFSHOOTS FROM THE FIRST CHURCH, PLYMOUTH

1632	Duxbury
1632	Marshfield
1646	Eastham
1698	Plympton
1717	Kingston
1738	Second Church, Plymouth (Manomet Ponds)
1744	Third Church, Plymouth (re-united with the First Church, Plymouth, 1784)
1801	Third Church, Plymouth

but a single deacon, William P. Ripley; and from the death of Mr. Ripley on November 10, 1842, to March 13, 1853, the church was apparently without a deacon.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES

1620-1859¹

PASTORS AND ASSOCIATE PASTORS

EPHRAIM LITTLE

1720²

Of Taking Heed to, and Fulfilling the Ministry; With the Grand Motive thereto. A Sermon Preached at the North-Precinct in Plymouth, November 2. 1720. Being the Day of the Ordination of the Reverend Mr. Joseph Stacey, to the Pastoral Office in the Church there. By Daniel Lewes, A.M. Pastor of the

¹ These include only (1) the writings of the settled pastors and associate pastors of the First Church from 1620 to the end of the year 1859, and (2) the sermons preached at the ordination or at the funeral of the settled pastors. Of the early ministers who preached at Plymouth but were not regularly settled (see p. li note 1, above), only three appear to have published anything — Roger Williams, John Norton, and Charles Chauncy.

Mr. John Cotton assisted the Apostle Eliot in his Indian translations, but published nothing under his own name. After the death of John Alden in 1687, two poems were printed in broadside. The authorship of one of these has never been ascertained, but the other, signed "J. C.," is usually attributed to Mr. Cotton. (See Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society, xli. 208; Mayflower Descendant, ix. 129-131, 193-196. If the attribution is correct, the poem was overlooked by Sibley in his Harvard Graduates, i. 507-508.) This poem is entitled:

"Upon the Death of that Aged, Pious, Sincere-hearted Christian, John Alden Esq: Late Magistrate of New-Plimouth Colony, who dyed Sept 12th. 1687. being about eighty nine years of age."

Mr. Little's only known publication was a Preface to a sermon printed in 1720: see the text on this page.

Mr. Leonard apparently published nothing, but he may have been the author (or part author) of a pamphlet printed in 1745. This was signed (p. 14) by fourteen pastors, headed by "Nath. Leonard, Pastor of a Church at Plymouth." The title reads:

The Testimony of A Number of Ministers Conven'd at Taunton, In the County of Bristol, March 5. 1744, 5. In Favour of The Rev. Mr. Whitefield, &c. Giving the Reasons of their inviting him into their Pulpits. . . . Boston: . . . 1745.

It is possible that a charge delivered by a pastor of the First Church was printed in some sermon preached by the minister of another church. But, so far as is known, no sermon or discourse by a settled pastor of the First Church was

² These dates indicate when the sermons or discourses were delivered or written, the date of publication being in some cases a year later.

Church in Pembroke. With a Preface by the Reverend, Mr. Ephraim Little, Pastor of the First Church in Plymouth. . . . Boston: . . . 1720.¹

CHANDLER ROBBINS

1767

The Ways of God vindicated. A Sermon Occasioned by the Death of Mrs. Elisabeth Watson of Plimouth, Late Consort of George Watson, Esq; and Daughter of the Hon. Peter Oliver, Esq; Who departed this Life, February 19, 1767. Ætatis 32. Delivered the Lord's Day after her Decease. . . . Boston: . . . M DCC LXVII.

1771

The Character of Dorcas considered and improved. A Sermon occasioned by the Death of Mrs. Lydia Hovey, of Plimouth, Late Consort of James Hovey Esq. Who Departed this Life Feb. 23d. 1771. Ætatis 56. . . . Boston Printed, M, dcc, lxxi.

1772

To please Christ, the great Business of a Gospel Minister. A Sermon Preached January 29th. 1772. at the Ordination of the Reverend Mr. Lemuel Le Baron, To the Pastoral care of the Second Church in Rochester. . . . Boston: . . . MDCCCLXXII.

1773

A Reply to some Essays Lately published by John Cotton, Esq; (of Plymouth) Relating to Baptism. Wherein it is attempted to shew, That the Practice of Persons owning the Covenant, (as it is called) and enjoying Baptism for their Children, while they neglect to come to the Lord's Supper, is unscriptural and of dangerous tendency. Also, A Vindication of the Author from several injurious Aspersions contained in Mr. Cotton's Remarks on some Letters that passed relative to this Point. . . . Boston: . . . 1773.²

1774

Some brief Remarks on A Piece published by John Cotton, Esq; Of Plymouth. Entitled "The general Practice of the Churches in New-England relating to published until nearly a century and a half had elapsed after the settlement of Plymouth.

From 1767 to 1859, inclusive, thirteen discourses were published by Dr. Robbins, eighteen by Dr. Kendall, and twelve or more by Dr. Briggs.

Mr. Myrick and Mr. Ball apparently printed nothing, and Dr. Hall's publications, coming after 1859, are not included in these bibliographies.

¹ The Preface is dated "Plymouth, Dec. 30, 1720," and fills pp. i-iv. The Sermon fills pp. 1-32.

² This pamphlet was in reply to Mr. Cotton's first pamphlet entitled:.

The general Practice of the Churches of New-England, relating to Baptism, Vindicated: or, some Essays on this important Question, Whether the Practice of Persons owning or renewing the Covenant, and having Baptism for their Children without coming immediately into full Communion, be warrantable? Delivered at several Church-Meetings in Plymouth. With some Letters that passed on the Subject. By John Cotton, A.M. of Plymouth. . . . Boston: . . .

Mr. Cotton's pamphlet, according to Evans, was published in 1772.

Baptism, further vindicated, in Answer to Mr. Robbins's Reply." . . . Boston, . . . 1774.¹

1791

A Sermon. Preached before His Excellency Jonh Hancock, Esq. . . . May 25, 1791. Being the day of General Election. Boston, . . . M,DCC,XCI.

1793

An Address, delivered at Plymouth, on the 24th day of January, 1793, to the Inhabitants of that Town; assembled to celebrate the Victories of the French Republic, over their Invaders. Delivered at the request of the Subscribers for the Civic Festival of that day. . . . Boston, . . . MDCCXCIII.

1793

A Sermon preached at Plymouth, December 22, 1793; being the anniversary of the landing of our ancestors in that place, in 1620. Published at the request of those who heard it, and others; with some enlargements, and particular anecdotes relating to their sufferings before they left England, never before published. . . . Boston: . . . 1794.²

1794

A Century Sermon, Preached at Kingston, In the County of Plymouth, April 2d, 1794; at the special desire of Mr. Ebenezer Cobb, who, on that day, arrived to the age of One Hundred Years. . . . Boston, . . . 1794.

1794

A Sermon, preached at the general Convention of Congregational Ministers in Boston, May 29, 1794. . . . Boston, 1794.

1795

A Sermon, preached at the Ordination of the Rev. Eliphalet Gillett, to the Pastoral Charge of the Church in the South Parish in Hallowell, (District of Maine) August 12th, 1795. . . . Hallowell. MDCCXCV.

1796

A Discourse delivered before the Humane Society of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, after their Semiannual meeting, June 14th, 1796. . . . Boston, . . . MDCCXCVI.

¹ This pamphlet was in reply to Mr. Cotton's second pamphlet, entitled:

The General Practice of the Churches of New-England, Relating to Baptism, Further Vindicated; Containing an Answer to the Rev. Chandler Robbins's Reply, Relative to this Question, Whether the Practice of persons owning or renewing the Covenant, and having Baptism for their Children, without coming Immediately into Full Communion, be Warrantable? Wherein the Affirmative is more Fully Confirmed. Together with some Further Remarks on Mr. Robbins's injurious Treatment of the Author. In Three Parts. By John Cotton, A.M. of Plymouth. . . . Boston: . . . 1773.

² An edition of this Sermon was published at Stockbridge in 1796.

1797

A Sermon, preached at the Ordination of the Rev. Ward Cotton, to the Pastoral Care of the First Church and Society in Boylston, June 6, 1797. . . . Printed at Worcester, . . . 1797.

JAMES KENDALL

1800

A Discourse, delivered at Plymouth, February 22d, 1800. At the Request of the Inhabitants, and in Compliance with the Recommendation of Congress, as a Testimony of Grief for the Death of George Washington. . . . Boston. . . . 1800.

1800

The Character and Blessedness of the Righteous; illustrated in a Sermon delivered at Plymouth, September 21, 1800, Being the Sabbath after the Interment of The Widow Jane Robbins, Relict of the late Dr. Robbins, Who died September 12, In the 60th year of her age. . . . Boston. 1800.

1800

A Funeral Sermon, delivered at Plymouth, December 14, 1800. Occasioned by the Death of Col. George Watson, Who died December 3d, In the 83d year of his age. . . . Boston. 1801.

1803

A Sermon, delivered at Plymouth, September 4, 1803. Occasioned by the Death of the Rev. David Tappan, D. D. . . . Boston: . . . 1803.

1805

A Sermon, delivered at Dennis, January 2, 1805, at the Ordination of the Rev. Caleb Holmes, to the Pastoral Office in that Place. . . . Boston: . . . March, 1805.

1806

Preparation for War the best Security for Peace. Illustrated in a Sermon, delivered before the Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company, on the Anniversary of their Election of Officers, Boston, June 2, 1806. . . . Boston: . . . 1806.

1811

A Sermon, delivered before the Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians and Others in North America, at their Anniversary, November 7, 1811. . . . Boston: . . . 1812.

1813

A Discourse delivered in King's Chapel, Boston, before the Humane Society of Massachusetts, at their Semiannual Meeting, June 8, 1813. . . . Boston: . . . 1813

1815

A Sermon, delivered at the Ordination of Rev. Oliver Hayward, to the Pastoral Care of the East Church and Parish in Barnstable, Nov. 8, 1815. . . . Boston: . . . 1816.

1818

An Occasional Sermon, preached at Plymouth the Sabbath after the Interment of Deacon Ephraim Spooner, who died March 22d, 1818, in the eighty third year of his age. . . . Boston: . . .

1823

A Discourse, preached in Plymouth, Lord's Day, February 9, 1823. On the Danger and Remedy of Evil Habit. . . . Plymouth, . . . 1823.

1825

An Exposition of I Tim. III. 16. Delivered in a Discourse before the Bay Association, At Quincy, April 27, 1825. . . . Plymouth: . . . 1825.

1828

On Man's Accountableness to his Creator, and a Future Retribution. *In* The Liberal Preacher; a Monthly Publication of Sermons by Living Ministers. March, 1828. Vol. I, No. 9, pp. [133]-147.¹

1830

A Sermon, delivered at the Ordination of Hersey Bradford Goodwin, as Colleague Pastor with Ezra Ripley, D.D. of the Congregational Church and Society in Concord, Mass. Feb. 17, 1830. . . . Concord. . . . M DCC XXX.

1830

A Sermon, delivered at the Ordination of Rev. James Augustus Kendall, as Pastor of the First Congregational Church and Society in Medfield, Mass. Nov. 10, 1830. Boston: . . . 1831.

1833

Charge. *In* A Sermon delivered at the Ordination of Rev. Chandler Robbins, over the Second Congregational Church in Boston, December 4, 1833. By Rev. Henry Ware, Jr. Boston: . . . 1833.²

1836

A Sermon, delivered February 14, 1836, occasioned by the Loss of the Brig Regulator, of Boston, in Plymouth Harbor, on the 5th of the same Month. . . . Plymouth: . . .

1850

A Discourse delivered January 1, 1850, upon the Fiftieth Anniversary of his Ordination as Pastor of the First Church in Plymouth, . . . Plymouth: . . . 1850.³

¹ The Liberal Preacher was at that time "Published by John Prentiss, Keene, N. H. and Bowles & Dearborn, Boston. Printed at Keene, by J. Prentiss."

² The "Charge. By Rev. James Kendall, D.D. of Plymouth, Mass.," fills pp. [19]-26.

³ Collation: Title, 1 p; Correspondence between Committee of Arrangements and Dr. Kendall, 1 p; Discourse, pp. [3]-21; Notes, pp. 21-23; Exercises in the Church, p. 23; Social Gathering in the Evening, pp. 23-24.

GEORGE WARE BRIGGS

1835

A Sermon, preached at the Dedication of the Unitarian Church, in Fall River, Mass. January 28, 1835. . . . Fall River: . . . 1835.

1842

An Address delivered before the Total Abstinence Societies in Plymouth, July Fourth, 1842, by George W. Briggs. . . . Plymouth. 1842.

1842

An Address delivered at the Funeral of Deacon William P. Ripley, In the First Church, at Plymouth, Sunday Afternoon, Nov. 13, 1842. . . . Plymouth: . . . 1842.

1846

The Bow in the Cloud: Fifteen Discourses. . . . Second Edition. Boston: . . . 1846.¹

1847

Obituary notice of Rev. Zephaniah Willis. *In* Christian Examiner, May, 1847, xlii. 466-467.²

1847

Two Sermons preached in the First Church in Plymouth, Mass. Sunday, July 4, 1847. . . . Plymouth: . . .

1847

A Discourse delivered before the Autumnal Unitarian Convention, held at Salem, Mass., Wednesday Evening, October 20, 1847. . . . Boston: . . . 1847.

1847

Bushnell on Christian Nurture. *In* Christian Examiner, November, 1847, xliii. 435-451.

1852

Method of Christian Salvation. . . . Printed for the American Unitarian Society. Boston: . . . *In* Tracts of the American Unitarian Association. First Series. Vol. XXV. . . . Boston: . . . 1852.³

1853

An Address to the Middlesex Sunday-School Society. Delivered at East Cambridge, Oct. 12, 1853. . . . Reprinted from the Monthly Religious Magazine. Boston: . . . 1853.⁴

¹ The preface is dated "Plymouth, Mass., December, 1845;" the text ends on p. 216; and the book was copyrighted in 1845. See under 1854 for a later edition (p. lxi, below).

² The notice is without a title.

³ This has a double pagination: pp. [3]-22, and pp. [97]-116.

⁴ Reprinted from The Monthly Religious Magazine, December, 1853, x. 558-568.

1854

The Bow in the Cloud: Discourses. . . . New Edition Enlarged. Boston and Cambridge. . . . M DCCC LIV.¹

1855

The Living Ministry: its Preparation and its Work. An Address Delivered before the Graduating Class in the Theological School at Cambridge, Sunday Evening, July 15, 1855. . . . Cambridge: . . . 1855.

1855

The Unchanging Christian Message. A Sermon preached at the Ordination of Rev. Alfred Porter Putnam, as Minister of the Mt. Pleasant Church in Roxbury, December 19, 1855. . . . Boston: . . . 1856.

1857

Protest in Piedmont. *In* Christian Examiner, November, 1857, lxiii. 404-431.

1859

A Sermon delivered at Plymouth, at the Funeral of Rev. James Kendall, D.D., Senior Pastor of the First Church, in Plymouth, Sunday Afternoon, March 20, 1859. By George W. Briggs, Minister of the First Church in Salem. . . . Boston: . . . 1859.²

1859

The Conditions of Ministerial Power: An Address delivered before the Graduating Class in the Theological School at Meadville, Penn., Wednesday Evening, June 29, 1859. . . . Boston: . . . 1859.³

ORDINATION AND FUNERAL SERMONS

1724

The Ministers of God's Word must Approve themselves unto God. A Sermon. Preached in the Audience of a Great Assembly at Plymouth, July 29th. 1724. Being the Day when the Reverend Mr. Nathanael Leonard, Was Ordained Pastor of the First Church in that Town. By Nathanael Eells, Pastor of the South Church in Scituate. . . . Boston, . . . 1725.

1760

A Sermon Preached at the Ordination Of the Reverend Mr. Chandler Robins, To the Pastoral Office over the First Church and Congregation In Plym-

¹ The preface is dated "Salem, (Mass.,) December, 1853." It contains twenty-four discourses and the text fills 280 pages. For an earlier edition, see under 1846 (p. lx, above).

² Title, 1 leaf; Note, 1 leaf; Sermon, pp. [5]-31; Appendix, pp. [33]-38.

³ Dr. Briggs also published "Hymns for Christian Worship, Boston, 1845:" cf. L. B. R. Briggs, "George Ware Briggs, 1810-1895," in *Heralds of a Liberal Faith*, III, *The Preachers*, Boston, 1910, pp. 37-40. The Massachusetts Historical Society owns what appears to be a proof of a "Sermon by Rev. George W. Briggs, D.D., Salem, Mass. Daniel V. 27." It consists of four pages, printed on the recto of each leaf; but in what magazine or newspaper the sermon was printed has not been ascertained.

outh, January 30th 1760. By his Father, the Reverend Mr. Philemon Robbins, Pastor of the first Church in Branford, — Connecticut. Boston: . . . 1760.¹

1799

The Resurrection of good Men to a blessed Immortality, a Ground of Consolation to surviving Mourners, illustrated in a Discourse, delivered at Plymouth, July 14, 1799, a few Days after the Death and Interment of the Rev. Chandler Robbins, D.D. . . . By William Shaw, A.M. Pastor of the First Church of Christ in Marshfield. . . . Boston. 1799.

1800

A Sermon, preached at the Ordination of the Reverend James Kendall, Over the First Church and Congregation in Plymouth, January 1, 1800. By Jonathan French, Pastor of the South Church in Andover. . . . Boston. 1800.²

1859

A Sermon delivered at Plymouth, at the Funeral of Rev. James Kendall, D.D., . . . By George W. Briggs, . . . 1859.³

¹ Title, 1 leaf; An Ordination Sermon, pp. [3]-22; An Appendix, pp. [1]-35. The heading to the Appendix reads:

An Appendix, Containing An Account of the Church of Christ In Plymouth, The first Church in New-England, From it's Establishment to the present Day. By a Member of said Church.

This Appendix was written by the Rev. John Cotton of Halifax, later of Plymouth: see p. xxii note, above.

² Collation: Half-title, 1 leaf; Title, 1 leaf; [Mr. French's] Sermon, pp. [5]-23; Charge, by the Rev. John Howland, pp. [24]-25; Right Hand of Fellowship, by the Rev. William Shaw, pp. [26]-28; Title [to Dr. Tappan's Sermons], 1 leaf; Sermon I, pp. [3]-21; Sermon II, pp. [23]-46. Though Dr. Tappan's Sermons are separately paged, the pamphlet has a continuous register. The title to Dr. Tappan's Sermons reads:

The Beauty and Benefits of the Christian Church, illustrated in Two Sermons, delivered to the First Religious Society In Plymouth, On January 5, 1800, Being the Lord's-Day immediately following the Ordination of the Reverend Mr. Kendall To the Work of the Gospel Ministry in that Society. By David Tappan, D.D. Hollis Professor of Divinity in Harvard College. . . . Boston. 1800.

How both Mr. French and Dr. Tappan came to preach sermons is explained by Dr. Briggs: "Dr. Tappan, who had been requested to prepare himself to preach the Sermon, on account of the feeble health of Mr. French, remained in town over the following Sabbath, and preached all day from Psalm xlviii. 2" (Sermon, March 20, 1859, p. 34).

³ For the full title of Dr. Briggs's Sermon, see p. lxi, above.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS
VOLUME I

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

VOLUME I

PART I¹

Church Records of

plymouth

1715

Ecclesia Christi²

CHRISTIAN READER,

I haue Looked att it as a duty Incombent on mee to Comitt to writing the first Beginnings and after progresse of the Church of Christ att Plymouth in New England; forasmuch as I can not vn-

¹ This heading, as throughout the volume, is not a part of the original records, having been inserted for convenience by the Editor. A short rule always separates the heading from the text of the records.

Volume I was originally bound in vellum and contained 84 leaves, constituting Parts i, ii, iii, and iv as indicated in the headings of the present volume, each part being separately paged. The pages measure 11¼ inches in height by 7½ inches in width, and the watermark is the same throughout. On the front of the original vellum cover are written in ink these words in the hand of Nathaniel Morton:

A Breife Ecclesiasticall
History of the Church of
Christ Att Plymouth
Ann^o Domi
1680

Many of the leaves of the vellum-covered volume being badly worn, some years ago the volume was taken to pieces and the leaves (including the vellum cover) inserted in a new volume bound in leather. Where a leaf is written on one side only, it is sometimes pasted on a page of the new volume, but most of the leaves

² These words, in an unknown hand, are on an unnumbered page, at the top of which something is written in an unknown hand, but as the leaf is torn only the words "Children of the Church" can be made out. The words on this page are the only ones in Part i not written by Nathaniel Morton. The verso of the page is blank.

derstand That there is any thing p^rticularly extant concerning it and almost all the Members of the said Church: both Elders & others Being deceased by whom Intelligence of Matters in that behalf might be procured, I dare not charge the Reuerend Elders of that Church whoe are Gon to there Rest; with any Neglect on that behalf for when they were in holland they were Nessesitated to defend the Cause of Christ by writing against opposites of seuerall sortes; soe as such like Imployes Together with the Constant and faithfull discharge of the duties of their offices probably took vpp the Greatest p^rte of theire time; And since the Church p^rted and a considerable p^rte therof came vnto this Goeing downe of the sun; It might be Neglected p^rtly on the account¹ That diuers writings some wherof being put forth in print, did point att; and in a Great measure discriminate the affaires of the Church; forasmuch (as then) the smale comonwealth in our first begining att New Plymouth Consisted mostly of such as were members of the church which was first begun

are mounted. When this was done, Part v, which contains 17 leaves, was also included in the volume, though as its leaves are smaller and have no watermark Part v could not have been a portion of the original vellum-covered volume. Hence as now made up, Volume I contains 111 leaves in five parts, each separately paged.

Volume I, as now bound in leather, has printed on the back of the cover, which measures $12\frac{3}{4}$ inches in height by $8\frac{3}{8}$ inches in width, the words:

Plymouth
First Church
Records.

And on the front cover are printed these words:

Plymouth First Church
Records.
First Book

The Lord our God be with us as he was
with our Fathers.

Part i is, with the exeception of a few words on p. 3 of this volume (see page 3 note 2), wholly in the hand of Nathaniel Morton. It contains 41 leaves, or 82 pages, of which six are not numbered, while the remainder are numbered from [1] to [76]. Six pages are blank — p. [3], p. [60], and four unnumbered pages, one being the verso of p. [1] and another the verso of p. [76]: see p. 3 note 2, above, and pp. 6 note 1, 8 note 3, 10 note 2, 113 note 4, 141 note 2, below.

For descriptions of Parts ii-v, see pp. 142 note 1, 190 note 1, 224 note 1, 249 note 1, below.

¹ Written above "accoun," crossed out.

and afterwards carried on in Leyden in holland; for about the space of twelue yeers and Continewed and carryed on att Plymouth in New England; a smale p^rte wherof Remaineth vntill this day; if any thing was don on this kind; by those worthy Leaders; I suppose; the blame is Rather to be layed on those which had the first view; of theire studdyes and had theire bookes and writings in Custody after theire decease; for I ame p^rswaded that such was theire faithfulness and prudence as that they did not wholly Neglect this matter some yeers since it pleased God to putt an Impulse vpon my speritt to doe somthing in a historicall way Concerning New England, more especially; with Respect to the Collonie off New Plymouth; which was Intitled New Englands Memoriall;¹ In which I occasionally I took Notice of Gods Great and Graciouss worke in erecting soe many Churches of Christ in this wildernes; But it was Judged by some that were Judicious that I was to sparing and short in that behalf; The Consideration wherof put mee on thoughts of Recollecting somthing more p^rticularly² Relateing to the Church of Plymouth but it pleased the Lord in holy wisdom soe to dispose that haueing accomplished my desires sometime after the finishing of this worke I was solliseted to lend it to a Reuerand frind att Boston where it was burned in the first fire that was soe destructiue att Boston in the yeer 1667.³) yett Notwithstanding I haue through the goodnes of God Crowded through many difficulties to atcheiue it the second time; and for that end did once againe Repaire to the studdy of my much honored Vncle William Bradfo[r^d]⁴ Esquire deceased for whose care and faithfulness in such like Respects wee stand bound; as firstly and mostly to the Lord soe⁵ secondarily, to him and his whose labours in such Respect might fitly haue bin

¹ Printed at our Cambridge in 1669: see Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, xiv. 268-281, xviii. 15-26.

² Here "Related" is crossed out.

³ This date, which is twice underscored, is doubtless an error for 1676, for it was in the fire of November 27, 1676, that Increase Mather (to whom Morton here refers) lost part of his library: see Mather's Diary under that date, 2 Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society, xiii. 373, 404.

⁴ Words or letters blotted or torn away or undecipherable are enclosed within square brackets. Such words or letters are in many cases taken from Bradford's History of Plymouth Plantation (edition of 1912), and in some cases from Young's Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers (1841).

⁵ Here the word "secondly" is crossed out.

published to the world; had they Not bin Involved in and amongst particulars of other Nature;

Gentle Reader I humbly Craue thy Patience and acceptance of this smale treatice soe as to Read it ouer Consideratly wherin soe doeing thou wilt discern much of the Goodnes Mercye and power of God; whoe as att the first brought this fabrick of the world out of the womb of Nothing; hath brought soe many famous Churches of Christ out of soe smale beginings; with Many other vsefull Considera[tions] that thou mayest meet with in the serious p^rusall therof; Soe leaueing thee and this smale work To the blessing of the onely wise God

I Remaine thyne in Christ Jesus

NATHANIELL MORTON;

Plymouth in New England
January 13th 1680¹

[1²]

An Introduction to the Ecclesiasticall history
of the Church of Christ att Plymouth
in New England as followeth;

It is well knowne to the Godly and Judicious how that euer since the first breakeing out of the light of the Gospell in our honorable Nation of England which was the first of Nations whom the lord Adorned therewith after that Grosse darknes of Popery which had Couered and ouerspred the Christian world, what warrs and oppositions euer since Satan hath Raised mainetained and Continewed against the Saints from time to time; in one sort or other; sometimes by bloody death and Crewell torments; otherwhiles Imprisonments banishments and other hard vsages as being loth his Kingdome should Goe downe, the truth prevaile, and the Churches of God Reuert to their Ancient purity and Recouer their primatiue order libertie and bewty; But when hee Could not prevaile, by these means

[T]his was
originally
pened by m^r
Willam Brad-
ford Gou^r
of New
Plymouth.³

¹ The date is underscored three times. This address is written on an unnumbered page, the verso of which is blank.

² The heavy face figures within square brackets indicate the pagination of the original.

³ Words written in the margin are sometimes, as in this instance, printed in the margin; sometimes printed in the text; and sometimes printed in the footnotes.

against the maine truthes of the Gospell but that they began to take Rooting in Many places being watered with the blood of the Martires; and blessed from heauen with a Graciouse Increase, hee then began to take him to his ancient Strattagemes vsed of old against the first Christians; That when by the bloody and Barbarosenes of the heathen Emperours hee Could not stop and subvert the course of the Gospell; but that It speedily ouerspred with a wonderful Celeritie to the then best known p^rts of the world hee then began to sow errors herresies and wonderfull desentions amongst the professors themselues, working vpon their prid and Ambition; with other Corrupt Passions Insident to all Mortall men: yee to the Saints themselues (in some Measure) by which woefull effects followed, as not onely bitter; Contensions and hartburnings Schismes¹ with other horrible Confusions, but Satan took occasion and advantage thereby to ffoist in a Number of vile Serrimonies with many vnprofitable Canons and decrees which haue since bine as snares to many peacable poor soules euen to this day; soe as in the ancient times the p^rsecutions by the heathen and their Emperours was not Greater then of the Christians one against another; The Arians and other their accomplices against the orthodox and true Christians as wittneseth Socrates in his 2cond book; saith hee) “was noe less then that of old practised towards the Christians when they were Compelled and drawne to Sacrefice to Idolls for many Indured sundry kinds of Torments oftens² Racking and dismembering of their Joynts Confiscateing of their Goods some bereaued of their Natiue soyle others departed this life vnder the hands of the tormentor and some died in banishment and Neuer saw their Country againe;”³

libr: 2 Cha 22

The like Meathod Satan hath seemed to hold in these Latter times since the truth began to springe and spred after the Great defection made by Antichrist the Man of sin; for to lett pas the Many examples in sundry Nations in seuerall places of the world and Instance of our oune; when as the old serpent Could not preuaile by those fiery fflames and other his Crewell tragedies, which hee by his

¹ Here the words “and hart burnings” are crossed out.

² This word (now obsolete) is plain, but was printed “others” by Young in his *Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers*, p. 8.

³ Morton’s quotation marks, usually placed in the margin, can not be printed in that fashion and are here transferred to the text.

Instruments put in ¹ ure euey wher in the dayes of Queen Mary and before; hee then began another kind of warr and went more Closely to worke Not onely to oppuggen but euen to Ruinate and destroy the kingdom of Christ by more Cecrett and subtile meanes, by kindleing the flames of Contention and sowing the seeds of discord and bitter enmitie amongst the professors and seeming Reformed themselves, for when hee Could not preuaile by the former meanes against the principall doctrines of faith; hee bent his force against the holy discipline and outward Regiment of the Kingdom of Christ by which those holy doctrines should be Conserued, and true Piety maintained amongst the Saints and people of God;

Actes & mon:
page 581²
Edition: 2:

M^r ffox Recordeth how that besides those worthy martires and Confessors which were burned in Queen Maryes dayes and otherwise tormented, many both Studients and others fled out of the land to the Number of 800: and became seuerall Congregations att Wesell frankford Bassill Emden Markpurge Strausborough & Geneua &c:

Amongst whom especially those att frankford began a bitter warr of Contention and Persecution about the Cerrimonies and seruice book and other Popish and Antichristian [stuffe t]he Plague of England to this day, which are like [the] high places [in Israell,] which the prophetts Cryed out against and were the[ir ruine;]³ [2] which the better p^rte sought according to the puritie of the Gospell to Root out, and vtterly [to abandon] and the other p^rt vnder vailed pretences for their owne ends and ⁴ advancem[ents] sought as stiffly to Contineue maintaine and defend, as appereth by the discourse thereof published [in] print Ann^o: 1575 a book ⁵ that deserues better to be knowne and Considered then it is ⁶ the one syde Labored to [have] the Right worshipp of God and discipline of Christ established in the Church according to the simplisitie of the Gospell without the mixture of mens Inventions, and to haue and to be Ruled by the Lawes of Gods word dispenced in those offices

¹ Here "vs" or "vse" is crossed out. The word employed by Bradford is "ure" (History, i. 6).

² This figure is uncertain.

³ The verso of p. [1] is blank.

⁴ Here "advantages" is crossed out.

⁵ A Brieff Discours off the Troubles begonne at Franckford in Germany Anno Domini 1554, compiled by William Whittingham.

⁶ Here something, perhaps "On side," is interlined and crossed out.

and by those officers of Pastours and Teachers and Elders according to the Scriptures; The other partye though vnder many Coullers and pretences Indeaured to haue the episcopall dignitie, after the ¹ Popish manor, with theire large power and Jurisdiction still Retained with all those Covrt Cannons, and Cerrimonies together, with all such liveings Revenewes and subordinate officers with other such means as formerly upheld theire Antichristian² Greatnes, and enabled them with Lordly and tiranus power to p^rsecute the poor servants of God, This Contension was soe Great as Neither the honor of God³ the Comon p^rsecution nor the Mediation of M^r Calvin and other worthyes of the Lord, in those places, Could prevaile with those thus Episcopally minded; but they proceeded by all meanes to disturbe the peace of this poor p^rsecuted Church soe farr as to Charge very vnjustly, and vngodlely (yett prelate Like) some of theire Cheiffe opposers with Rebellion and high Treason against the Emperour and other such Crimes;

And this Contension di^d not with Queen Mary nor was left beyond the seas but att her death these people Returning into England vnder Gracious Queen Elizabeth many of them p^rserued aspired to Bishopprickes and other promotions according to their aimes and desires. & Now⁴ That Inveterate hatred against the holy discipline of Christ in his church hath Continewed to this day, In soemuch that for feare it should prevaile all plott and deuises haue bin vsed to keep it out Insenceing the Queen and State against it as dangerous to the Comon wealth and that it was most Needfull for the fundamenta[l] points of Religion should be preaced in⁵ in those Ignorant and superstitious t[imes] and to win the weake and Ignorant, they might Retaine diuers harmles Ceremonies and though it were to be wished that diuers thinges were Reformed yett this was [not] a season for it; and many the like to stopp the mouthes of the More Godly; to bring them on to yeild to one Ceremony after an other, and one corruption after an other by the[se]⁶ wyles beguilling some and Corrupting others vntill att length they began to p^rsecute al[l]

¹ Here "Popp" is crossed out.

² Here "way" is crossed out.

³ Here the words "as neither the Comon p^rsecution" are crossed out.

⁴ The words "& Now," which are interlined and perhaps crossed out, are obscure: they are not in Bradford's History (i. 9).

⁵ Here the words "in those p^rtes" are crossed out.

⁶ Here "wyl" is crossed out.

the zealous professors in the land (altho they knew Little what this discipline mente) both by word and deed if they would not submitt to theire Ceremonies and become Slaues to them and theire popish trash which haue noe Ground in the word of God, but are Relicts of the man of sin; and the more the light of the Gospell Gre[w] the more they vrged theire subscriptions to these corruptions soe as notwithstandi[ng] all theire former pretences and faire Coullers they whose eyes God had not Justly blinded might esily see whereto these thinges tended; and to Cast Contempt the more vpon the Cenceer servants of God they approbriously and Most Injuriously Gaue vnto and Imposed vpon them that Name of puritans, which is said the Nouatians out of Prid did assume and take vnto themselues, and lamentable it is to see the effects which haue followed; Religion hath bine disgraced: the Godly Greiued afflicted p^rsecuted and many excilled sundry haue lost theire liues in prisons and other wayes, on the other hand sin hath bin Countenanced Ignoranse prophanes and athiesme Increased the papests Incurraged to hope againe for a day;

This made that holy man m^r Perkins¹ Cry out in his exhortations vnto Repenten[ce] on Zepha 2 Religion saith hee, "hath bin amongst vs this 35 yeers But the more it is published the more it is Contemned and Reproached of many &c Thus not proph[anes] nor wickednes but Religion it selfe is a byword a mocking stock and Matter of Reproach soe that in England att this day the man or woman that begins to profess Relig[ion] and to serue G[od must] Resolue with him selfe to sustaine M[ock]s and Injvries euen [as] though hee [lived amongst] the enimies of Religion" and [this com-mone] experience [hath confirmed, and made too apparente.'] [4 ²]

But before I pass on I can not omitt an observation worthy to be noted which was observed by the author viz: m^r William Bradford as followeth:

Saith hee, full litle did I think that the doune fall of the Bishoppes with theire Courts Cannon and Ceremonies had bin soe near when I first began this writing which about the year 1630 and soe peeceed att Leasvre time afterwards, or that I should haue liued to haue seen

¹ William Perkins, Godly and learned Exposition of Christ's Sermon on the Mount, 1618.

² Page [3] is blank.

or heard of the same But it is the lords doeing and ought to be Marvelous in our eyes; euery Plant which mine heauen[y]¹ father hath not planted saith our father shalbe Rooted vp: Mat: 15: 13: I haue Snared thee and thou art taken oh Babell (Bishops) and thou wast not aware; thou art found and alsoe caught because thou hast Striven against the Lord Jer: 50: 24: But will they needs strive against the truth against the servants of the lord; what and against the lord himself doe they provoake the lord to anger are they stronger than hee 1 Cor 10: 22: noe noe they haue mett with their match; Behold I Come against the oh proud man saith the lord God of hostes for thy day is coming euen the time that I will visitt thee Jer: 50: 31: May not the people of God now say; and these poor people among the Rest; The lord hath brought forth our Rightousnes come lett vs declare in Zion the work of the Lord our God Jer: 51: 10: lett all fflesh be still before the Lord for hee is Raised vp out of his holy place Zach: 2: 13:²

This poor people may say (amonge the thousands of Israell) when the Lord brought againe the Captiuitie of Zion wee were like them that dreame Psalm 126: 1 The Lord hath done Great thinges for vs whereof wee Rejoyce verse the third; They that sow in teares shall Reape in Joy; they went weeping and Carried precious seed but they shall Return with Joy and bringe their sheaues verse 5: 6:

Doe yee not Now see the fruits of your labours oh all yee servants of the Lord that haue suffered for his truth and haue bin faithfull witnesses of the same; and yee little handfull amongst the Rest the least amongst the thousands of Israell; you haue not had a seed time, but many of you haue seen a Joyfull haruest. should yee not then Rejoyce yee againe Rejoyce and sing hallelujah saluation and Glory and honor and power be to the Lord our God for true and Righteouse are his Judgments Reu: 19: 1: 2.

But thou wilt aske what is the matter what is done; Why art thou a stranger [in] Israell that thou shouldest not know what is done; are not those Jebusites ouercome that haue vexed the people of Israell soe longe euen holding Jerusalem euen vntil Dauids Dayes

¹ Here a word, apparently "father," is crossed out.

² Morton has here written in the margin: "this eleuation of speritt was a considerable time after the first pening of thes writings but heer entred because of the suitableness of the mater going before it;"

and bin as thornes in their sydes soe many ages and Now bega[n] to scorne that not any Dauid should meddle with them; they begaine to fortify their tower as that of the old babilonians; But those proud Anakims are Now throwne downe; and their Glory layed in the dust, the tiranous Bishoppes are ejected there Co[urts] desolued their Canons fforceles their service books Casheired their Ceremonies vses [and] despised their plotts for Popery prevented, and all their superstitions dis[carded] and Returned to Roome from whence they Came; and the moniments of Idolletry [rooted] out of the land, and the proud and prophane supporters and Crewell defenders [of] these, as bloody Papists wicked Athiests and their malignant Consorts maru[e]lously ouerthrowne, and are not these Great things, whoe Can deny it;

But whoe hath don it euen hee that siteth on the white horse whoe is called faithf[ul] and true and Judgeth and fighteth Righteously Reuelati 19: 11: whose Garments are diped in blood; and his Name was Called the word of God verse 13: for hee shall Rule them with a Rod of Iron for it is hee that treadeth the winepresse of the ffirenes of the wrath of God Almighty, and hee hath vpon his Garment and vpon his thye a name written, the Kinge of Kinges and the lord of Lords, Hallelujah;

See how this holy man his sperit was Elivated and his hart Raised vp in praiseing of the Lord in Consideration of the downefall of the proud prelatse; as hee and many more of the Saints had Good Reason; who felt the smart of their bitter and Crewell tirany; whoe are endeed a limbe of Antichrist; and if the Generallitie of the Saints had bin those sencible of this Great and¹ Marueilous work of God, posibly that proud hirachy, had not Gott vp soe soone againe as they haue done soone, after this Good man[s] departure out of this world;² Neuertheles wee doubt not but that God wil bring them down in his Good time; for vndoubtedly all those that will not that the Lord Jesus should Raig[n] ouer them; but ensteed therof exercise a usurped lordly power over the poor saints of God sha[ll be] brought and slaine before him; (and without Repentance) shall together with the beast and ffalse prophett be thrown into the lake burning with fier and brimstone; when Babilon [cometh into] Remembrance

Ann^o Dom
1646

Reu: 17
5: 6: 7

¹ Here "vnde" is crossed out.

² Bradford died May 9, 1657.

before God then shall the saints with the angell say thou art J[ust] and holy because [thou hast judged] these thinges for they; viz: that hord¹ of Room [an]d the prelates theire ad[herents] haue shed the blood [of the saints. Give them blood to drink; for they are worthy.²] [5]

The exordium being Concluded; I shall come more Nearier my Intended purpose: viz: in Reference vnto the Church of Christ at Plymouth in New England; first begun in old England and carryed on in holland; and att Plymouth aforesaid;

Chapter I.

When by the trauell and dilligence of some Godly and Zelous ^{Imp^r} Preachers and Gods blessing on their labours as in other places of the Land soe in the North p^rtes many became Inlightened by the word of God and had their Ignorance and sines discovered by the word³ of Gods Grace; and began by his Grace, to Reforme their liues and make Consience of their wayes, the work of God was noe sooner manifest in them but p^rsently they were both scoffed and scorned by the prophane Multitude and the minnesters vrged with the yoake of Subscribption or else must be silenced; and the poor people were soe⁴ vexed with apparitors and Pursvants and the Comission courts as truly their affliction was not smale; which Notwithstanding they bare sundry yeers with much Patience vntill they were occationed by the Continewance and Increase of those troubles and other meanes which the Lord Raised vp in those dayes; to see further Into thinges by the Light of the word, of God; how not onely⁵ those base beggerly Ceremonies were vnlawfull but alsoe that the lordly tiranous power of the Prelates ought Not to be submitted to which thuse Contrary to the freedome of the Gospell would load and burten mens Consiences with and by their Compulsieue power make a prophaine mixtvre of p^rsons and thinges in the worship of God; and that their offices and Callings Courts and

¹ Perhaps "hore."

² This paragraph is of course Morton's. The words torn away are supplied from Young's Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers, p. 17.

³ Here the words "of truth" are interlined and crossed out.

⁴ Here two letters, apparently "xe," are crossed out.

⁵ Here the words "some of the" are crossed out.

Cannons &c: were vnlawfull and Antichristian being such as haue noe warrant in the word of God but the same that were vsed in Popery: and still Retained; of which a famous Auther thus writeth in his duch Comentaryes¹

"Att² the Comeing of Kinge James out of Scotland into England, the New Kinge (saith hee) found there established the Reformed Religion; According to the Reformed Religion of Kinge Edward the sixt, Retaining or keeping still the speritvall state of the bishopes &c: after the old manor much varying and differing from the Reformed Churches of Scotland ffrance and the Netherlands Emden Geneva etc whose Reformation is Cutt or shapen much Nearer the first Churches as it was vsed in the Apostles times;"

Soc many therfore of these proffessers as saw the euil of these thinges, in these p^rtes and whose harts the Lord had touched with heauenly Zeale for his truth, they shook of this yoake of Antichristian Bondage and as the Lords ffree people Joyned themselues (by a Covenant of the Lord) into a Church estate in the ffellowshipp of the Gospell to walk in all his wayes made knowne or to be made knowne vnto them according to their best endeauors whatsoeuer it should Cost them³ and that it Cost them much paines trouble sorrow affliction and⁴ p^rsecution; and expence of their estates &c this ensueing history will declare

These people became two distinct bodyes or Churches; in Regard of Distance of Place and did Congregate Seuerally for they were of seuerall townes & villages some in Nottingamsheire some in Lankishsheire⁵ and some of Yorksheire where they bordered Nearest together; In the one of these Churches besides others of Note was m^r John Smith a man of Able Giftes and a Good preacher whoe afterwards was Chosen their Pastour but these afterwards falling

¹ Emanuel van Meteren's General History of the Netherlands was translated by Edward Grimstone.

² Against this paragraph and the next is written in the margin: "[Th]e Reformed [Chur]ches shapen [mue]ch Nearer the [pri]mitive Pateren [th]en England [f]or they Casheired [t]he Bishoppes [w]ith" all their [Cou]rt Canons and [Cer]emonies att [the] first and [left] them amongst [the] popish trash [to w]hich they [app]ertaine."

³ Here a word is crossed out.

⁴ Here a word, perhaps "p^rsecution," is apparently crossed out.

⁵ Morton's error for Bradford's "Lincollinshire" (History, i. 22).

into some errorrs in the low Countryes, there for the Most p^rte buryied themselues and theire Names

But in this other Church; which must be the subject of our discourse besides other worthy men was M^r Richard Clifton a Graue and Reuerend Preacher whoe by his paines and dilligence had don much Good and vnder God had bin a meanes of the Conversion of Many; and Alsoe that famous and worthy man M^r John Robinson whoe afterwards was theire Pastour for many yeers vntill the Lord [6] The Lord took him away by death; And alsoe m^r William Brewster a Reuere[n]d man who afterwards was Chosen an Elder of the Church and liued with them [until] old age; and death

Butt after these thinges they Could not longe Continew in any peacable manor but were hunted and p^rsecuted on euery side soe as theire former Afflictions; were but as molehills to Mountaines, in Comparison to these; which now Came vpon them; for some were taken and Claped vp in prisons, others had their houses besett and watched Night and day and hardly escaped their hands and the most were faine to fly and leaue their houses and habitations, and the meanes of their liuelihood yett these and many other sharper thinges which afterward befell them were Noe other then they looked for; and therefore were the better prepared to beare them by the Assistance of Gods Grace and speritt; yett seeing themselues thus Molested, and that there was noe hope of their Continewance theire; by a Joynt Consent they Resolued to Goe into the low Countryes; where they heard was ffreedom of Religion for all men; as alsoe how sundry from London and other p^rtes of the land that had bine exiled and p^rsecuted for the same Cause and were Gon thither and liued att Amsterdam¹ and in other places of the land;

Soe after they had Continewed together about a yeer and kept their meetinges euery sabbath in one place or other exercising the worship of God amongst themselues, Notwithstanding all the dilligence and mallice of their aduersaries; they seeing they Could Noe Longer Continew in that Condition they resolued to Gett ouer Into holland as they Could which was in the yeer 1607 and 1608: of which more in that which followeth;

¹ This refers to the church which, originally set up at London in 1592, soon after removed to Amsterdam. Francis Johnson was the pastor and Henry Ainsworth the teacher.

1608:

of their departure Into holland And their troubles
 therabout with some of the many difficulties
 they found and mett withall

2 Chapt

Being thus Constrained to Leaue their Natiue Country their lands & liueings and all their frinds and familiar acquaintance, It was much and thought maruellous by many; But to Goe into a Country they knew not (but by hearsay) where they must learn a New Language and Gett their Liueings they knew not how; It being a deare place and subject to the Misseryes of warr It was by many thought an adventure almost desparate, a Case Intollerable and a missery worse then death especially seing they were Not acquainted with trades nor traffick (by which the) Country doeth subsist; but had onely bin vsed to a plaine Country life and the Inocent trade of husbandry; But these thinges did not dismay them (although they did sometimes trouble them) for their desires were sett on the wayes of God and to enjoy his ordinances But they Rested on his providence; and knew whom they had beleiued; yett this was not all for although they Could not stay; yett were they not suffered to Goe but the ports and hauens were shutt against them; soe as they were faine to seeke secrett meanes of Conveyance and to see the Marriners and Giue extreordinary Rates for their passages and yett were they oftentimes betrayed many of them; and both they and their goods Intercepted and surprised and therby put to Great trouble; and Charge of which I will Giue an Instance or two and omitt the Rest;

There was a Great Companie of them purposed to Gett passage att Boston in Linkensheire and for that end had hiered a shipp wholly to themselues and made agreement with the Master to be Ready att a Certaine day; and take them and their goods in att a [7] Conuenient place where they accordingly would all attend in Reddlines; soe after longe waiting and large expences, though hee kept not the day with them yett hee came att Length and took them in In the Night, and when hee had them and their Goods aboard, hee betrayed them haueing before hand Comploted with the serchers and others officers soe to doe, whoe took them and putt them into

open boates and there Rifelled and Ransaked them serching them to theire shirts for mony, yee euen the weomen further then became Modesty; and then Carryed them backe into the Towne, and made them a spectacle and wonderment to the Multitude which came flocking on all sydes to behold them; Being thus by the Catchpole¹ officers Rifled and striped of theire Mony bookes and much other goods they were p^rsented to the Majestrates and Messengers sent to Informe the Lords of the Councell of them; and soe they were comitted to ward Indeed the Majestrates vsed them Curtuovsly and shewed them what fauor they Could but Could not deliuer them vntill order Came from the Councell Table, but the Issue was that after a month Imprisonment the Greatest p^rte were dismissed and sent to the place from whence they Came; but some² of the principall were still kept in prison and bound ouer to the Assices. p. 40/1.³

The Next spring after there was another attempt made by some of these and others made to Gett ouer att another place; and it soe fell out that they lited of a duch man att hull haueing a shipp of his owne belonging to Zealand; they made agreement with him and acquainted him with theire Condition; hoping to find more faithfullness in him, then in the former or of theire owne Nation; hee bad them not feare for hee would doe welenough hee was by appointment to take them in between Grimsbey and hull where was a large Comon a Goodway⁴ distant from any towne; Now against the p^rfixed time the weomen and Children with the Goods were sent to the place in a smale barque which they had hiered for that end and the men were to meet them by land but it soe fell out that they were there a day before the shipp Came, and the sea being Rough and the weomen very⁵ very sick prevailed with the seamen to put into a Creek hard by where they lay on Ground att Low water The Next morning the shipp came but they were fast and Could Not stirr vntill about noone; In the mean time the shipp Master p^rseiveing how the Mater was sent his boate to be Getting the⁶ Men aboard whome hee⁷ saw

¹ Altered from "Catchpoles."

² Here Bradford has "7" (History, i. 31).

³ The reference is to pp. [40-41] of the text, or p. 80 of this volume.

⁴ Here a word, perhaps "distinct," is crossed out.

⁵ Here "weomen" is crossed out.

⁶ Written above "them," crossed out.

⁷ Here "say" is crossed out.

walking about the shore but after the first boate full was Gott aboard and shee was Reddy to Goe for more the Master espyed a Great Companie both horse and foot with bills and Guns and other weapons for the Country was Raised to take them; The duch man seeing that, swore his Countrys Oath (Sarament) and haueing the wind faire wayed his Ancre hoysed sayles and away but the poor men which were Gott on board were in Great Distress for their wiues and Children which they saw thuse to be taken and were left destitute of their healpes and themselues alsoe, Not haueing a Cloth to shift them with more then they had on their backes; and some scarce apeny about them all they had being on board the barke; It drew tears from their eyes and any thing they had they would haue Giuen to haue bin on shore againe but all in vaine there was Noe Remedy they must thus sadly p^rte; and afterward Indured a fearfull storme att Sea being fourteen dayes or more before they ariued att their¹ port; In seauen whereof they Neither saw Sun moon Nor starrs; and were driuen to the Coast of Norway the Marrinors themselves often desparring of life; and once with shrikes and Cryes Gaue ouer all as if the shipp had bine foundered in the sea, and they sinking without Recouery; But when Mans hope and heelp wholly faylleth the lords power and Mercy appeered for their Recouery for the shipp Rose againe, and Gaue the Marriners Corrage againe to Manage her; and if Modesty would suffer [8] mee I might declare with whate feruent prayers they Cryed vnto the Lord in this Gr[eat] distress especially some of them euen without any Great distraction when the water Ran in their very ears and Mouthes; and the Marrynors Cryed out wee sinke wee sink; they Cryed if not with Miraculous yett with a Great hight of diuine ffaith; yett Lord thou Canst saue yett Lord, thou Canst saue; with such other expressions as I will forbear; ² vpon which the shipp did not onely Recouer but shortly after the violence of the storme began to abate; and the Lord filled their afflicted Minds with such Comforts as euery one Can not vnderstand; and in the end brought them to their desired haue where the people Came flocking admireing their deliuerance, the storme haueing bin soe longe and sore; in which

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here the words "with such other expressions as I will forbear" are crossed out.

much hurt had bin don as the Masters frinds had Related vnto him, in their Congratulations;

But to Returne to the others where wee left; the Rest of the men that were in the Greatest danger made shift to escape away before the troope Could Surprise them those onely staying that best might; to be assistant to the weomen but pittifull it was to see the heauy case of these poor weomen; in their destress what weeping and Crying on euery syde, some for their husbands that were Carryed away in the shipp as it was before related; others not knowing what should become of them and their Little ones others melted in¹ teares seeing their poor Little ones hanging about them Crying for feare and quaking with Cold; being thus apprehended they were hurried from one place to another and from one Justice to another vntill in the end they knew not what to doe with them for to Imprison soe many weomen and Inocent Children, for noe other Cause (Many of them) but that they must Goe with their husbands, seemed to be vnreasonable² and all would Cry out of them, and to³ send them home againe was as difficult; for they alledged (as the truth was) They had noe homes to Goe to; for they had sold or otherwise disposed of their houses and liueings to be short after they had bin thus tormoyled, a good while and Conveyed from one Constable to another they were Glad to be Rid of them, in the end vpon any tearmes for all were wearie and tired with them; tho in the mean time the poor soules Indewred Misery enough and thus in the end Necessitie forced a way for them;

But that I be not tedious in these thinges I will omitt the Rest; although I might Relate many other Notable passages and troubles which they Indvred, and vnderwent in these their wanderings and trauels both att⁴ Land and Sea. But I hast to other thinges yett I may not omitt the fruite that Came heerby; for by those soe public troubles in soe many eminent places their Cause became famous, and occasioned Many to Looke into the same, and their Godly Carryage and Christian behauiour; was such as left a⁵ deep Im-

¹ Something in here crossed out.

² Here the words "vnto all" are crossed out.

³ Here "send" is crossed out.

⁴ Here "sea" is crossed out.

⁵ Here the letters "dep" are crossed out.

pression in the minds of Many; and tho, some few shrunke; att those first Conflits and sharp beginin[gs] (as it was noe Maruell) yett many more Came on with ffresh Corrage and Greatly anymated others; and in the end ¹ Notwithstanding all these stormes of ² opposition they all Gott ouer att ³ length some att one time and some att another and mett together againe according to their desires with noe smale Rejoycing;

Chapt: 3

of their settleing in holland and their manor of Liueing
and entertainment there;

Being now Come into the Lowcountrys ⁴ they saw many Goodly and fortified Cityes strongly waled and Gaurded with troopes of Armed men; alsoe they heard a strange and vncouth Language and beheld the different Manors and Customes of the people with their strange fashions and attires; all soe farr diffiring from that of their plaine Countrey villages wherein they were bread and borne and had soe longe liued; as it seemed they were Come into a New world; but those were not the thinges they much looked on, or longe took vp their thoughts for they had other work in hand; and another kind of warr to wage and maintain [9] ffor though they saw fair and butifull Cityes fflowing with abundance of all sorts of wealth and Riches, yett it was not longe before they saw the Grime and Griseled face of pouerty Comeing on them like an Armed man, with whom they must buckle & ineounter, and from whom they Could not ffly But they were armed with faith and Patience against him and all his encounters and though they were sometimes foyled, yett by Gods assistance they prevailed and Gott the ⁵ victory; Now when M^r Robinson M^r Brewster and other principall Members were Come ouer for they were of the last and stayed to heale the weakest ouer before them; such thinges were thought on as were Nessesary for their settleing and best ordering of the Church affaires and when they had liued att Amsterdam about a yeer; M^r Robinson their

¹ Here "vnder" is crossed out.

² Here some letters are crossed out.

³ Here "leg" is crossed out.

⁴ "In this history the Low Provinces mean the two provinces of Holland and Zealand" (W. C. Ford, Bradford's History, i. 36 note).

⁵ Here the letters "victo" are crossed out.

Pastovr, and some others of best discerning seeing how m^r John Smith and his Companie was alreddy fallen into Contension (with the Church) that was there before them;¹ and noe meane[s] they Could vse would doe any Good to Cure the same; and also that the fflames of Contension were like to breake out in that ancient Church; it selfe as afterwards Lamentably Came to pase; which thinges they prudently foreseeing; thought itt was best to Remoue before they were any way engaged [with] the same; though they well knew it would be much to the prejudice of their outward estate both att p^rsent and in likelyhood in the future; as Indeed it proued to be; for these and some other Reasons they Remoued to *Leyden* a fayre and butifull Citty and of a sweet Scittuation; But made more famous by the vnivercety wherwith it is adorned in which of late ha[th] it bin, by soe many Learned men; But wanting that traffick by sea which Amsterdam Injoyed It was not soe beneficiall for their outward means of liueing and estates; but being Now heere pitched they fell to such trades and Employments as they best Could vallueing peace and their sperituall Comfort aboue any other Riches whatsoeuer; and att length they came to Raise a Competent and Comfortable Liueing; and with hard and Continuall labour being thus settled after many difficulties they Continewed Many² yeers In a Comfortable Condidition Injoying much sweet and delightfull society; and sperituall Comfort together in the wayes of God vnder thê able minnistry and Prudent Gouverment of M^r John Robinson and M^r William Brewster who was an Assistant vnto him in the place of an elder, vnto which hee was Now Called and Chosen by³ the Church soe as they Grew in knowlidge and other Gifts and Graces of the speritt of God And liued together in peace and loue and holines; and Many Came vnto them from diuers p^rtes of England; soe as they Grew a Great Congregation; and if att any time any differences did arise or offences broke out, as it Can not be but that sometimes⁴ there will euen amongst the best of men; they were eue[r] soe mett with and Nipt in the head betimes or other wise soe well Composed a[s] still loue peace and Comunion was Continewed, or else the Church purged of those that were Incurable; and Incorrig-

¹ See p. 15 note 1, above.

² Here "in" is crossed out.

³ Here something is crossed out.

⁴ Here "euen" is crossed out.

Goulden
book &c:³

able, when after much Patience vsed noe other meanes¹ would serue which seldome comes to pass yee such was the mutvall loue and Resiprocall Respect; That this worthy man had to his flock and his flock to him, that it might be said of them² as it once was said of that famous Emperour Marcus Aurelivs and the people of Roome; That it was hard to Judge whether hee delighted more in haueing such a people; or they in haueing such a pastor his loue was Great towards them; and his Care was alwaies bent for their best Good both for soule and body for besides his singular abillities in diuine things (wherin hee excelled) hee was able alsoe to Giue direccion [10] In Civill affaires and to foresee dangers and Inconueniences, by which meanes hee was [very] healpfull to their outward estates; and soe was euery way as a Comon father vnto them, and none did more offend him; then those that were Close and Cleaueing to themselues and Retired from the Comon Good; as alsoe such as would be stiffe and Ridged in Matters of outward order and⁴ Inuay against the euills of others; and yett be Remise in them selues, and not soe Carefull to express a vertuous Conversation; they in like manor had euer a Reverent Regard vnto him and had him in precious estimation as his worth and wisdome did deserue, and although they esteemed him highly whiles hee liued and laboured amongst them; yett much more after his death when they Came to feele the want of his healp and saw by woefull experience⁵ what a treasure they had lost of the Greife of their hearts and wounding of their soules, yee such a losse as they saw Could not be Regained for it was hard for them to find such another leader and feeder in all Rspects, as the Taborites to find another Ziska; and although they did not Call themselues orphanes as the other did after his death yett they had Cause as much to Lament in another Regard, their p'sent Condition and after vsage; But to Returne I know

¹ Here the words "Noe other Meanes" are crossed out.

² Here some words are interlined and crossed out.

³ The Golden Boke of Marcus Aurelius Emperor and Eloquent Oratour, a translation by Lord Berners of a French version of Antonio de Guevara's *Libro Aureo de Marco Aurelio* (1528). In 1529 Guevara published an enlarged version entitled *Libro de Emperador Marco Aurelio cō Relox de Principes*, which was translated by Sir Thomas North. See *The Diall of Princes* (ed. K. N. Colville, 1919), pp. ix, xiii, xiv-xv, xliii-xliv.

⁴ Here a word, perhaps "Invey," is crossed out.

⁵ Here "which" is crossed out.

not but it may be spoken to the honor of ¹ God and without prejudice to any That such was the humble Zeale and feruent loue of this people (whiles they thus liued together) towards God and his wayes and the single hartednes and senseer affection one towards another That they Came as Neare the primitiue Patteren of the first Churches as any other Church of these latter times haue don; according to their Ranke and qvallitie; But seeing it is not my purpose to treat of the seuerall passages that befell this people whiles they thus liued in the low Countryes, which might worthyly Require a large treatice of it selfe; But to manifest somthing of their begining and after progresse in New England which I principally Scope, and aime att; yett because some of their Adversaries did vpon the Rumer of their Remoueall Cast out Slanders against them; as if that State had bine weary ² of them; and had Rather driuen them out as the heathen histories did faine of Moses and the Israelits when they went out of egipt; then it was their owne free Choise and motion; I will therfore mention a p^rticular or two to shew the Contrary; and that Good acceptance they had in the place and first altho it was low with many of them yett their word would be taken amongst the duches when they wanted mony, because they had found by experience how Care full they were to keep their word; and saw them soe painefull and dilligent in their Callings that they stroue to Gett their Customes, and to Imploy them aboue others in their work for their honesty and dilligence;

[A] Great
[h]onor [to]
the [G]ospell

Again ³ the Majestrates of the Cittey about the time of their Coming away or a little before in the publick place of Justice Gaue this Comendable Testimony of them in Reproffe of the Walloones (whoe were of the ffrench Church) in the Cyttey; these English (said they) haue lived amongst vs now this 12 yeeres; and yett wee Neuer had any suite or accusation Came against them; but your striffes and quarrells are Continuell &c:

In these times alsoe were the Great troubles Raised by the Arminians whoe as they Greatly molested the whole state soe this Cittey in p^rticular, in which was the Cheiffe Vniuersitie soe as there was dayly and hott disputes in the Scooles therabouts and as the

¹ Here "to" is crossed out.

² Written above "wery," crossed out.

³ Altered from "Against."

Students and other learned were deuided in their opinions heerin; soe were the two professors or diuinity Readers themselues, the one daely teaching for it, and the other against it; which Grew to that passe that few of the disciples of the one would heare the other teach; But M^r Robinson although hee taught thrise a weeke himself and wrott sundry bookes besides his Manifold paines otherwise; yett hee went Constantly to heare their Readings and heard as well one as the other; by which means hee was soe well Grounded in the Controversy and saw the force of all their ¹ Arguments and knew the shifts of the Adversary; and being himself very able, Non was fitter to buckle with them then hims[elfe] as appeared by sundry disputes, soe as hee began to be terrible to the Arminions [11] which made episcopious ² the Arminian Professor to put forth his best strength and sett out sundry thesies which by publick disputes hee would defend against all men; Now Poliander ³ the other professor and the Cheiffe preachers of the ⁴ Citie desired M^r Robinson to dispute against him but hee was loth being a stranger yett the other did Importune him and tould him that such was the abillitie and Nimblenes of witt of the Adversary that the truth would suffer; if hee did not help them soe as hee Condecended and prepared himself against the time; and when the time came the Lord did soe heale him to defend the truth and foyle his Adversary; as hee put him to an apparent Nonplus in this Great and publick Audience; and the like hee did two or three times vpon such ⁵ like occasions the which as it caused many to praise God that the truth had soe famous a victory soe it procured him much honor and Respect from those Learned men and others which loued the truth; yee soe farr were they from being weary of him and his people or desireing their absence, as that it was said by some (of noe mean Note) That were it not for Giveing offence to the State of England they would haue preferred him otherwise if hee would, and allowed them some publick fauor yee when there was speech of their Remouall into these p^rts: sundry of Note and eminensy of that Nation would haue had

¹ Here a word, perhaps "singular," is crossed out.

² Above this name, which is underscored but not crossed out, is written, in a different hand, "Episcopius."

³ This name is underscored.

⁴ Here "Cyttey" is crossed out.

⁵ Written above "a," crossed out.

them Come vnder them and for that end made them Large offers; Now although I might alledge many p^rticulars and examples of the Like kind to shew the vntruth and vnliklihood of this Slaunder yett these shall suffice seing it was beleiued of few being onely Raised by the Mallice of Some whoe labovred theire disgrace;

The 4th Chapt:

shewing the Reasons and Causes of their Removall ¹

After they had liued in this Citty about eleuen or twelue yeers; (which is the more) (obseruable) being the whole time of that famous truce ² between that state and the Spainiards; and sundry of them were taken away by death and many others began to be well stricken in yeers; the Graue mistris Experience haueing taught them many things; these prudent Gou^rnors with sundry of the sagest members began both deeply to apprehend theire p^rsent dangers; and wisely to foresee the future and think of timly Remedy in the agitation of their thoughts and much discovrse of p^rticulars heerabout; the began to encline to this Conclusion of Removall to some other place Not out of Any New fangleednes or other such like Giddy humer by which men are many [time]s Transported to theire Great hurt and danger but for sundry waighty and sollid Reasons; the Cheife of which I will heer Resight and breifly touch; and first: they found and saw by experience the hardnes of the place and Country to be such as few in comparison ³ would Come to them and fewer that would bide it out; and Continew with them; for many that cam to them and many more that desired to be with them Could not Indure the Great labour and hard fare with other Inconveniencyes which they vnder went and were Contented with; But though they loued theire p^rsons and approued theire Cause and honored theire sufferings, yett they left them as it were weeping as orpha did her mother in law Naomy; or as those ⁴ Romans did Catoe in vtica whoe desired to be excused; and borne with: though they could not all be Catoes;

¹ This heading is written in the margin.

² A truce of twelve years was concluded between Spain and the Netherlands on March 30, 1609.

³ Here the letters "wh" are crossed out.

⁴ Here "Cato" is crossed out.

1 for many though¹ they desired to Injoy the ordinances of God in their purity and the libertie of the Gospell with them yett alas they admitted of Bondage with danger, of Conscience Rather then to Indure these hardshippes; yee some preferred and Chose prisons in England Rather then this libertie in holland; with these afflictions; but it was thought that if a better and easier place of liueing Could be had it would draw many and take away these discouragements, yea their Pastour would oftens say that many of those that both write and preached now against them if they were in a place where they might haue libertie and liue Comfortably they would then practice as they did

2 They saw that although the people Generally bore all their difficult[ies] very Chearfully and with a Resolute Curriage being in the best of their strength yett old age began to Come on some of them; and their Great and Continewall labours with other Crosses and sorrowes hastened it before the time; soe as it was not onely probably thought, but apparently seen that within a few yeers more they were in danger to scatter by Necessitie pressing them; or sink vnder their burdens, or both; and therefore according to the diuine proverb; That a wise man seeth the Plague when it Cometh and hydeth himself proverbes 22:3 soe they like skilfull and beaten souldiers were fearfull either to be Intrapped or surrounded [12] by their enemies; soe as they should neither be able to fight nor fly and therefore thought it better to dislodge betimes to some place of better advantage and lesse danger if any Could be found;

3 As Necessitie was a task Master ouer them; soe they were forced to be such not onely to their servants but in a sort to their dearest Children, the which as it did a little wound the tender harts of many a loueing father and mother soe it produced alsoe many sad and sorrowfull effects for many of their Children that were of best dispositions and Graciously Inclinations; haueing Learned to beare the yoake, in their youth and willing to beare part of their parents burden were often times, soe oppressed with their heauy Labours; that although their minds were free and willing; yett their bodies bowed vnder the waight of the same and became decriped in their early youth the vigour of Nature being Consumed in the very bud (as it were) But that which was more lamentable and of all sorrowes

¹ Apparently altered from "thought."

most heavy to be bourne was that many of their Children by these occasions and the Great lysenciousnes of youth in the Country, and the manyfold temptations of the place were drawne away by euill examples vnto extrauigant and dangerouse Courses Getting the Raines on their neckes and departing from their parents some became souldiers others tooke vpon them farr voyages by sea and other some, worse Courses tending to desolutenes, and the danger of their soules to the Great Greiffe of their parents and dishonor of God soe that they saw their posteritie would be in danger to degenerate and be Corrupted;

Lastly and which was not the¹ least a Great hope and Inward Zeal they had of laying some Good foundation or att least to make some way thervnto for² the propagateing; and advancing the Gospell of the kingdom of Christ in those Remote p^rtes of the world, yee, though they should be but as stepping stones vnto other, for p^rforming of soe Great a worke;

These and some other like Reasons moued them to vndertake this Resolution of their Removall the which they afterward proceeded with soe Great difficulties as by the sequell will appeer;

The place they had thoughts on were some of those vnpeopled Countryes of America which are fruitfull and fitt for habitation being devoid of all Civill³ Inhabitants, where ther are onely salvage and brutish people which Range vp and downe little otherwise then the wild beasts; this proposition being made publi[ck] and Comeing to the scanning of all it Raised many variable oppinions amongst men, and Caused many feares and doubts amongst themselues; some from their Reasons and hopes Conceiued; laboured to stir vp and Incurrage the Rest to vndertake and procecute the same; others againe out of their feares objected against it; and sought to divert from it, alledging many thinges and those neither vnreasonable nor vnprobable; and that it was a Great designe and subject to many Inconceivable p^rrells and dangers as besides the causaltie[s] of the seas (which none can be freed from) the length of the voyage was such as the weake bodyes of men and weomen and such other p^rsons worne out with age and travill (as many of them were) could neuer

¹ Here the letters "las" are crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Here "habitations" is crossed out.

be able to Indure; and yett if they should; the miseryes of the land which they should be exposed vnto would be to hard to be bourn and likely some or all of them to Consume and vtterly to Ruinate them; for theire they should be ¹ lyable to famine and Naked[nes] and the want in a Manor of all thinges; the Changing of the ² aire diatt and drinking of water would Infect theire bodyes with sore sicknesses and all tho[se] which should escape or ouercome these difficulties should yett be in Contin[ual] danger of the salvage people whoe are Crewell ³ Barbarous and treach[erous] [13] being most furious in theire Rage and Mercyles where they ouercome not being Content onely to kill and take away life, but delight to torment men in most bloody Manor that may be; fflaying men alive with the shells of ffishes Cuting of the Joynts and members of others by peece meales; and broyling them on the Coles; and causing men to eate the Collopps of theire fflesh in theire sight whiles they liue; with other Creweltyes horrible to be Related; and surely It could not be thought but the hearing of these thinges: could not but moue the bowells of men to Grate within them and mak the weak to quak and tremble It was further objected that, it would Require Greater sumes of mony to furnish such a voiage; and to fitt them with Necessaries then theire estates would amount to; and yett they must all as well look to be seconded with supplies, as p^rsently to be transported; alsoe the like p^resedents of ill successe and lamentable Miseryes befallen others in the like ⁴ designs were easey to be found and not forgotten: to be alledged, besides theire owne experience in theire former troubles and hardshipps in theire Removall into holland, and how hard a thinge it was for them to liue in that strange place although it was an Naighbour Country; and a Ciuill and Rich Comon wealth;

It was Answered that all Great and honorable Actions were accompanied with Great difficulties; and must be both enterprised and ouercome with Answerable Currages, It was Granted the dangers were Great but not desparate, and the difficultie were many ⁵ but

¹ Here "like" is crossed out.

² Here "hot" is crossed out.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

⁴ Here "Case" is crossed out.

⁵ Here the words "the difficulties were" are crossed out.

Not Invincible, for although there were Many of them likely yett they were not Certaine; It might be that some of ¹ the thinges feared might Neuer befall them. Others by prouidence Care and the vse of Good meanes might in a Great Measure be prevented; and all of them through the healp of God by fortitude and patience; ² might ³ either be bourne or ouercome; true it was that such Attempts; were not to be made and vndertaken but vpon Good Ground and Reason, Not Rashly or lightly as many haue don for Curiossety or hope of Gaine &c: But theire Condition was Not ordinary theire ends were Good and honorable theire Calling lawfull and vrgent; and therefore they might expect a blessing of God in theire proceeding yee although they should loose theire liues in this action yett they might haue Comfort in the same; and theire Indeauors would be honorable.⁴

They liued heer but as men in exile and in a poor Condition; and as Great Misseryes might posibly befall them, in this place, for the 12 yeers of truce were now out,⁵ and there was Nothing but beating of drums and preparing for warr, the euent whereof are alwaies vncertaine; the spainiard might proue as Crewell as the saluages of America; and the famine and pestilence as sore heer as theire and theire libertie lesse to look out for Remedy After; Many other prticular thinges answared and alledged on both sydes It was fully Concluded by the Major part to put this designe in execution and to procecute it by the best meanes they could.

The 5th Chapt:

[s]hewing what [m]eanes they [used] for [prepa]ration
to [this] [w]aithty voiage ⁶

And first after theire humble prayers vnto God for his direction and Assistance And a Generall Conference held therabouts; they

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here the words "and all of them through the healp of God by fortitude and patience" are crossed out.

³ An asterisk precedes this word, follows "honorable" at the end of this paragraph, and precedes "They" at the beginning of the next paragraph.

⁴ Here some words, apparently "theire Calling lawfull and vrgent; and therefore they might expect a blessing of God in their proceeding," are crossed out.

⁵ See p. 25 note 2, above.

⁶ This heading is written in the margin.

Consulted what p^rticular place to pitch vpon; and prepare for; some and none of the meanest had [14] had thoughts and were earnest for Goyanna or some of those fertile places in hott Clymetts others were for some p^rtes of Verginnia where the English had alreddy made enterance and begining, those for Goyanna alledged that the Country was Rich fruitfull and blessed with a p^rpetvall springe; and a fflorishing Greenes; wher vigorous Nature brought forth all thinges in aboundance and plentey without any Great Labour or art of man soe as it must Needs make the Inhabitants Rich, seeing lesse prouision of Clothing and other thinges would serue them then in more Colder and lesse fruitfull Countreyes must be h[ad] as alsoe that the spainyards haueing much more then they Could, posesse had not yett planted there nor any where very Neare the same;

But to this it was Answered that out of q^uestion the Country was both fruitfull and pleasant and might yeild Riches and maintenance to the posessors more esely then to¹ other yett other thinges Considered it would not be soe fitt; and first that such hott Countreyes are subject to Greevius diseases and many Noysome Impediments, which other more tempera[te] places are freer from and would Not soe well agree with our English bodyes; againe if they should there liue and doe well the Jealous spaniard, would Neauer suffer them longe but would displant and ouerthrow them, as hee did the ffrench in fflorida whoe were settled further from his Richest Countreyes; and the sooner because they should haue None to Protect them and their owne strength would be too smale to Resist soe Potent an enimie soe Neare an Naighbor,

On the other hand for Verginnia² it was objected that if they liued amongst the English which were their planted, or soe Near them as to be vnder their Gou^rment they should be in as Great danger to be troubled and p^rsecuted for their Cause of Religion as if they liued in England (and it might be worse and if they) liued to farr of, they should neither haue succor or defence from them;

And att length the Conclusion was to liue in a distinct body by themselves vnder the Gener[al] Gov^rment of Verginnia; and by their ffrinds to sue to his Ma^tie that hee would be pleased to Graunt

¹ Morton should have written "the."

² Altered from "Verginnias."

them free liberty, and freedom of Religion; and that this May be obtained they were put in Good hope; by some Great p^rsons of Good Rank and qual[ity] that were made their frindes;

Whervpon two were Chosen and sent into England att the Charge of the Rest [to] sollissit this matter whoe¹ found the Verginnia Companie very desirous to haue them Goe thither, and willing to Graunt them a Pattent with as ample priviled[ges] as they had or could Graunt to any, and to Giue them the best furtherance they C[ould] and some of the Cheiffe of the Company doubted Not to obtaine their suite of the king for libertie in Religion and to haue it Confeirmed vnder the Kinges broad sea[l] according to their desires but it proued a harder peece of work then they tooke it for; for although many meanes was vsed to bring it aboute yett it Could not be effe[cted] for there were diuers of Good worth laboured with the Kinge to obtaine it among[st] whom was one of his Cheife Secretaries;² and some other wrought with the arc[h] Bishop to Giue way thervnto, but it proued all in Vaine; yet thus farr, they prevaile[d] in sounding his Ma^{ties} Mind, that hee would Conive att them, and Not molest them provided they Carryed themselves peacably; But to allow or tollerate them by his publick authoritie vnder his seale, they found it would not bee; and this was all that the Cheefe of the verginnia Company or any other of their best frinds Could do in the Case; yett they p^rswaded them to Goe on for they p^rsumed they should not bee troubled and with this answere the messengers Returned and signified what dilligen[ce] had bin vsed and to what Issue things were Come;

But this made a damp in the business and Caused som destrac-tion for many wer[e] affraid that if they should vnsettle themselves put offe their estates and Goe vpon the[se] hopes It might proue dangerous and but a sandy foundation; yee it was thou[ght] they might better haue presumed heervpon without making any suite att all th[en] haueing made it to be thus Rejected; but some of the Cheifest thought othe[rwise] [15] And that they might well proceed heervpon and that the Kinges Ma^{tie} was willing enough to suffer them without molestation though for other Reasons hee

¹ Here a word is crossed out. The two chosen were Robert Cushman and John Carver: cf. letter of Sandys, p. 32, below.

² Sir Robert Naunton.

would not Confeirme it by any publick acte; and furthermore if there was Noe securitie in this promise Intimated there would be noe great Certainty in A further Confeirmation of the same for if afterward there should be a purpose or desire to wronge them though they had a seal as broad as the house flore It would not serue the turne for there would be means enough found to Recall or Reverse it; and seeing therfore the Course is probable they must Rest heerin on Gods Prouidence as they had don in other thinges;

vpon this Resolution other Messengers¹ were dispatched to end with the virginia Companie as well as they Could and to procure a patent with as Good and ample Conditions as they might by any Good meanes Attaine as alsoe to treat and Conclude with such Marchants and other frinds as had manifested theire forwardnes to provoak to and adventure in this voyage for which end they had Instructions Giuen them vpon what Conditions they should proceed with them or else to Conclude Nothing without further advice; and heer it wilbe Requisite to Insert a letter or two that may Giue light to these proceedinges

A Cappy of a letter from Sir Edwin Sands directed to
m^r John Robinson and m^r William Brewster

After my harty sallutations, The agents of your Congregation Robert Cushman and John Caruer haue bin in Communication with diuers Celest Gentlemen of his Ma^{ties} Councell for Verginnia, and by the writing of seuen articles² with your Names haue Giuen them that Good degree of Satisfaction; which hath Carryed them on with a Resolution to sett forward your desire in the best sort that may be for your own and the publick Good diuers p^ticulars wherof wee leaue to their faithfull Report; haueing Carryed themselues heer with that Good descretion as is both to their owne and their Creditt from whence they Came; and whereas being to treat for a Multitude of people they haue Requested further time to Confer with them, that are to be Interrested in this action about the seuerall p^ticulars which in the prosecution therof will fall out Considerable; It hath bin very willingly assented vnto, and soe they doe Now Returne vnto you; if therefore it may please God soe to direct your desires; as that on your p^tes there fall out noe Just Impediments I trust by the same direction It shall likewise appeer that on

¹ Robert Cushman and William Brewster: cf. p. 38, below.

² Morton has here omitted Bradford's "subscribed" (History, i. 72).

our p^rtes all forwardnes to sett you forward¹ shalbe found In the best sort, which with Reason May be expected; and soe I betake you with this designe, which I hope verily is the worke of God to the Gracious Protection and blessing of the highest.

Youer very Loueing frind
EDWIN SANDS

London Nouember 12 1617

[16]

Theire Answare was as followeth

RIGHT WOR^{PLL}

Our humble duties Remembered in our owne our messengers and our Churches name, with all thankfull acknowledgements of your singular loue expressing it self as otherwise soe more especially in your Great Care and earnest Indeaour of our Good, in this waighty business about Verginnia; which the lesse able wee are to Requite wee shall thinke our selues the more bound to Comend in our prayers vnto God for Recompence, whom as for the p^rsent you Rightly behould in our Indeaours soe shall wee not be wanting on our p^rtes (the same God Assisting vs) to Returne all Answarable fruite and Respect vnto the labour of your loue bestowed vpon vs wee haue with the best speed and Consideration withall; that wee Could sett down our Requests in writing subscribed (as you willed) with the² Greatest p^rte of our Congregation and haue sent the same vnto the Counsell by our agent³ A deacon of our Church John Caruer vnto whom wee haue alsoe Requested a Gentleman of our Companie to adjoyne himself, to the Care and descretion of which two wee doe⁴ Refer the prosecuting of the busines; Now wee p^rswade our selues Right Wor^{PLL} That wee need not to prouok your Godly and loueing mind to any further or more tender Care of vs, since you haue pleased soe farr to Interest vs in your self that vnder God aboue all p^rsons and thinges in the world wee Relye vpon you; expecting the Care of your Loue Councell of your wisdom and the heale and Countenance of your Authoritie, Notwithstanding for your Incurragment in the work soe farr as probabilitetie may lead wee will not forbear to mention these Instances of Inducement;

1 Wee verily beleue and trust the Lord is with vs vnto whom and whose service wee haue Giuen our selues in Many tryalls; and that hee

¹ Altered from "forwards."

² Morton has here omitted Bradford's "hands of the" (History, i. 74).

³ Altered from "agents."

⁴ Here a word is crossed out.

will Graciously prosper our Indeauours according to the simplissey of our harts therin

2 Wee are well weaned from the dillicate milk of our mother Country and Invred to the difficulties of a strange and hard land which yett in Great p^rte wee haue by patience ouercome;

3 The people are for the body of them Industrious and frugall wee think wee may safely say as any Companie of people in the world;

4 Wee are knitt together as a body in a more strict and sacred bond and Couenant of the Lord of the violation whero[f] wee mak ¹ Consience; and by vertue wherof wee doe hold our selues straitly tyed to all Care of each others Good; and of the whole by euery and soe Mutuall;

5 And lastly it is not with vs as with other men whome smale things can discourrage or smale discontentments Cause to wish them selues att home againe wee know our entertainment in England and holland; wee shall much prejudice both our artes and meanes by Remouall whoe if wee should be driuen to Returne wee should not hope to Recouer our p^rsent healps and Comforts neither indeed ² looke euer to attaine ³ the like in any other place during our liues which are Now drawing towards theire Periods.

These motiues wee haue ben bould to tender vnto you which you in your wisdome may alsoe Impart to any other our worshipfull frinds of the Councell with you of all whose Godly dispositions and loueing, towards our dispised p^rsons wee are most Glad and shall not faile by all Good meanes to Continew and Increase the same; wee shall not be further troublesome But doe with the Renewed Remembrance of our humble dutyes to your Worshipp and soe farr as in Modesty wee may be bold to any other of our welwillers of the Councell with you, wee tak our Leaues Comitting your p^rsons and Councells to the Guidance and Protection of the almighty

Yours much bounden in all duty

JOHN ROBINSON

WILLIAM BREWSTER

Leyden the 15 of december 1617

[17]

I found annexed vnto the forgoeing letters these following lines written by m^r Bradford, with speciall Reference vnto the fowrth p^rticular on the other syde written

¹ Here Morton has omitted Bradford's "great" (History, i. 77).

² Here "hope" is crossed out.

³ Here "any" is crossed out.

O Sacred bond whilst Inviolably p^rserued how sweet and precious were the fruites that flowed from the same but when this fidelitie decayed then there Ruine approached oh that these antient members had not died or bin dissipated if it had bine the will of God or else that this holy Care and Constant faithfulness had still liued and Remained with those that surviued that were in times afterwards aded vnto them; but alas that Subtile Serpent hath slyly wound in him selfe vnder faire pretences of Nessesitie and the like to vntwist¹ these Sacred bonds and tyes and as it were Insensibly by degrees to desolue or in a Great measure to weaken the same I haue bin happy in my first times to see and with much Comfort to Injoy the blessed fruites of this sweet Comunion; But it is now a p^rte of my Misery in old age to find and feele the decay and want² therof in a Great measure, and with Greiffe and sorrow of hart to Lament and bewaile the same, and for others warning and³ admonition and my owne humilliation doe I heer Note the same,

thuse much by way of digression⁴

ffor further light in these proceedinges fornamed see some other letters and Notes as followeth

The Coppy of a letter sent to Sir John Worsingham

RIGHT WOR^{P^{LL}}

With due acknowledgement of our thankfulness for your singular Care and paines in the busines of Verginia for our and (wee hope,⁵ the Comon good) wee doe Remember our humble duties vnto you and haue sent as is (desired) a further explanation of our Judgments in the three points specified by some of his Ma^{ties} honorable privy Councill, and although it be Greuious vnto vs that such vnjust Insinuations are made against vs, yett wee are most Glad of the occation of making our Just purgation, vnto the soe honorable p^rsonages the declarations wee haue sent Inclosed, the one more breiffe and Generall which wee think the fitter to be presented, the other som thing⁶ more large and in which wee expresse some smale accedentall differences which if it seeme Good vnto you and other of youre Worshippes frinds you may send in steed of the former; our prayers vnto God is that your worshipp may see the fruite of your worthy Indeaours, which on our p^rte wee shall Not faile

¹ Here a word or two are crossed out.

² Here the letters "ther" are crossed out.

³ Here "my" is crossed out.

⁴ These words are written in the margin.

⁵ Altered from "hopes."

⁶ Here "more" is crossed out.

to further by all Good meanes and soe praying that you would with all Conueniency that may be;¹ Giue vs knowlidge of the successe of the busines with his Ma^{ties} Priuey Councell and accordingly what your further pleasure is, either for our direction or furtherance in the same, soe wee Rest

Your worships in all dutye

JOHN ROBINSON

WILLIAM BREWSTER

Leyden January 27 1617 old stile

[18]

The first ² breiffe note was this ³

Touching the Ecclesiastical minnistry Namely of Pastours for teaching Elders for Ruleing and deacons for distributing the Churches Contribution as alsoe for the two sacraments Baptisme and the Lords supper wee doe wholly and in all points agree with the ffrench Reformed Churches, according to their publick confession of ffaith though some smale differences

The oath of Supremacye we shall willingly tak if it be Required of vs if ⁴ that Convenient satisfaction be not ⁵ giuen by our takeing the oath of Allegiance

JOHN ROBINSON

WILLIAM BREWSTER

the second was ⁶

This touching the Ecclesiasticall Minnistry as in the former, &c wee agree in all thinges with the ffrench Reformed Churches according to their publick Confession of ffaith though some smale differences be to be found in our practices not att all in the substance of the ⁷ thinges but onely in some accedentall Circumstances,

1 as first their ⁸ minnisters doe pray with their heads Couered; wee vncouered;

2 Wee Chose none for Gou^rning Elders but such as are able to teach which abillitie they doe not Require.

¹ Here "to" is crossed out.

² Here "no" is crossed out.

³ These words are written in the margin.

⁴ Here "and" is crossed out.

⁵ Here "taken" is crossed out.

⁶ These words are written in the margin.

⁷ Altered from "them."

⁸ Here "head" is crossed out.

1 Their Elders and deacons are Anuall or att the most for two or three yeers; ours p^rpetuall;

4 our Elders doe Adminnester theire office in Admonitions and ex-communicatio[n] for publick scandalls publickly and before the Congregation theires more privately and in theire Consistories;

5 Wee doe Adminnester Baptismee onely to such Infants as wherof the one parent (att the least) is of some Church; which some of theire Churches doe not obserue, although in it our practices accords with theire publick Confession; and the Judgment of the most learned amongst them

other differences (worthy mensioning) wee know none

Subscribed

JOHN ROBINSON

WILLAM BREWSTER

London feb 14 1617

p^rte of an other letter from him that deliuered these,

Youer letter to Sir John Worsingham I deliuered allmost as soone as I had it to his owne hands (and stayed with him the opening and Reading therof) there were 2 papers Inclosed hee Read them to himself as alsoe the Letter, and in the Reading hee spake to mee and said whoe shall make them viz: the Minnesters I answered his worship; that the power of making was in the Church; to be ordained by the Imposition of hands by the fittest Instruments, they haue It must either be in the Church or from the Pope and the Pope is Antichrist; he said Sir John, what the Pope holds Good (as in the trenity) that wee doe well to Assent to, but said hee wee will not enter into dispute Now, and as for your letters hee would Not shew them att any hand lest hee should spoyle all; hee expected you should haue bin of the Archbishops mind for the Calling of minnesters, but it seemes you differed; I Could haue wished to haue known the Contents of your two enclosed, att which hee stuck soe much especially the larger; I asked his worshipp what Good Newes hee had for mee to write tomorrow; hee told mee¹ Good newes for both the Kings Ma^{tie} and the Bishopps haue Consented; hee said hee would Goe to M^r Chanceler Sir ffolke Griuell, as this day, and Next week I should know more. I mett [19] I mett with Sir Edwin Sands on weddensday Night, hee wished mee to be att the Verginnia Court the Next weddensday, where I purpose to be thus loath to be troublesome att Present, I hope to haue something Next week of Certainty Concerning you I Comitt you to the Lord;

Youers S: B:²

¹ Here Morton has omitted Bradford's "very" (History, i. 83).

² This letter was written by Sabine Staresmore.

These thinges being longe in agitation and Messengers passing to and againe about them after all theire hopes they were longe delayed by many obstacles that fell in the way, for att the Returne of these Messengers into England; they found thinges farr other wise then they expected; for the Verginia Councell was Now soe disturbed with factions and quarrells amongst themselues as Noe busines Could well Goe forward; the which may the better appeer in one of the Messengers, Letters as followeth;

To his Loueing frinds

I haue thought Long since to haue writt vnto you but Could Not effect that which I aimed att Neither Can Yett: sett thinges as I wished yett Notwithstanding I doubt Not but M^r Brewster hath written to m^r Robinson, but I think my selfe bound alsoe to doe somthinge least I be thought to Neglect you; The maine hinderance of our proceedinges in the verginia busines is the desentions and factions as they tearme it amongst the Councell and companie of Verginia which are such as that euer since wee Came vp noe busines Could by them be dispatched the occation of this trouble amongst them is, That a while since Sir Thomas Smith Repining att his Many offices and troubles, wished the Companie of Verginia to ease him of his office in being Treasurer, and Gou^r of the Verginia Companie; whervpon the Companie tooke occation to dismise him, and Chose Sir Edwin Sands Treasurer and Gou^r of the Companie, hee haueing 60 voyces; Sir John Worsingham 16 voyces and alderman Johnson 24 But Sir Thomas Smith when hee saw som p^rte of his honor lost was very Angry and Raised a ffaction to Cauill and Contend about the election; and sought to tax Sir Edwin with Many thinges that might both disgrace him and alsoe put him by his office, of Gou^r: In which Contentions they yett Stick and are not fitt Nor Reddy to entermeddle in Any busines, and what Issue thinges will Come to I know Not, nor are wee yett Certaine It is most like Sir Edwin will Carry it away and if hee doe thinges will Goe well in Verginia, if otherwise they will Goe ill enough alwaies; wee hope in 2 or 3 Court dayes thinges will settle, mean space I thinke to Goe downe into Kent, and come vp againe about 14 dayes or three weekes hence, except either by these aforsaid Contentions or by ill tidings from Verginia, wee be wholly discourraged of which tidings as followeth

Capt. Argoll is Come home this week; hee vpon Notice of the Intent of the Councell Came away before Sir Gorge yeardly Came there and soe there is Noe smale desention but his tidings is ill altho his p^rson be welcome; hee saith M^r Blackwells Shipp Came, not ther vntill march

but Goeing towards winter they had still Northwest winds which Carryed them to the southworth beyond theire Course and the M^r of the Shipp and some six of the Marriners dieing It seemed they Could not find the Bay; till after long seeking and beating about; M^r Blackwell is dead, and m^r Maggner the Capt: yee there are dead hee saith 130 p^rsons one and other in the shipp; It is said there was in all 180 p^rsons in the ship; soe as they were packed together like herrings they had amongst them a fflux and alsoe want of ffresh water soe as it is heer Rather [20]¹ wondered that soe many are aliue then that soe many are dead the² the marchants heer say it was m^r Blackwells fault to packe soe many in the shipp yee and there was Great murmuring and Repining amongst them and obraiding of m^r Blackwell for his dealing and disposing of them when they saw how hee had disposed of them and how hee Insulted ouer them; yee the streets att Grausend Rang of theire extream qvarrelling crying out one of another thou hast brought mee to this I may thank thee for this, heavy Newes it is and I would³ be Glad to heare how farr it will discourrage: I see none heer discourraged much but Rather desire to learne to beware by other mens harmes, and to amend that wherin they haue fayled, as wee desire to serue one another in loue soe take heed of being Inthraled by other Imperious p^rsons, especially if they be descerned to haue an eye to themselues; It doth often trouble mee to think that in this busines wee are to learne and none to teach but beter soe then to depend vpon such teachers as m^r Blackwell, was such a strattagem hee made for m^r Johnson and his people att Emden much was their subversion but though hee their Clenlery yett vn dishonestly plucked his Neck out of the Coller yett att last his foot is caught; heer are noe letters Come; the shippes captain Argoll came in is yett in the west p^rtes, all that wee heare is but his Report it seemeth hee came away secretly, the shipp that m^r Blackwell went in wilbe heer shortly; It is as m^r Robinson once said, hee thought wee should heare Noe good of them, m^r Brewster is not well, att this time whether hee will Goe back to you or goe into the North I yett know not, for my self I hope to see an end of this Busines eare I Come tho I am sorry to be thus from you; if thinges had gon⁴ Roundly forward I should haue bin with you within this fourteen dayes I pray God direct vs and Giue vs that 'speritt, which is fiting for such a busines thus haueing⁵ sumarily pointed att thinges, which m^r Brewster

¹ Here a word, perhaps "wondered," is crossed out.

² Here the letters "March" are crossed out.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

⁴ Written above "bin," crossed out.

⁵ Here "soe" is crossed out.

I think hath ¹ more largely write of, to m^r Robinson, I leaue you to the Lords Protection;

Yourer in all Reddynes &c:

ROBERT CUSHMAN

London May the 8th 1619

digression

A word or two by way of digression ² touching this m^r Blackwell hee was an Elder of the Church of Amsterdam a man well knowne of most of them; hee declined from the truth with m^r Johnson; and the Rest and went with him when they departed assunder in that wofull manor, which brought soe Great dishonor to God scandall to the truth and outward Ruin to themselues, in this world; but I hope Notwithstanding through the mercyes of the Lord, theire soules are now att Rest with God in the heauens; and that they are ariued in the hauen of happines; though some of theire bodyes were thus burie[d] in the terrible seas, and others sunck vnder the burden of bitter afflictions; hee with some others had prepared for to Goe to Verginia, and hee with sundry Godly Cittyzens being att a private meeting (I take it) att a fast in london being discouered many of them were apprehended wherof m^r Blackwell was one, but hee soe Glosed with the bishop and either decembled or flatly denyed the truth which formerly hee had maintained; and not onely soe but vnworthyly betrayed and accused another Godly man ³ whoe had escaped that soe hee might slipp his owne Neck out of the Collor; and to obtaine his owne freedom brought others into bonds; wher-vpon hee soe won the bishopps fauor but lost the Lords, as hee was Not onely dismissed but in open Court the Archbishopp Gaue him Great Applause, and his sollem blessing to proceed in his voyage; But if such euent follow the Bishopps blessing happy are they that mise ⁴ the same, It is much better to keep a Good Conscience ⁵ and haue the Lords blessing whether in life or death, but see how that man apprehended by m^r Blackwells meanes writes to a frind of his;

RIGHT DEARE FRIND AND CHRISTIAN BROTHER M^r CARUER

I sallute you and youers in the lord; Sir as for my owne p^rsent Condition I doubt not but you well vnderstand it by our brother Master-

¹ Here "m^r" is crossed out.

² Here two or three letters are crossed out.

³ Sabine Staesmore.

⁴ Here "thes" is crossed out.

⁵ Here some letters are crossed out.

son whoe should haue tasted of the sam cup had his place of Residence and his p^rson bin as well known as my selfe. [21] Somwhat I haue written to m^r Cushman¹ how the matter still Continewes. I haue Petitioned twise to m^r Sheriffes and once to my lord Cook and haue vsed such Reasons to moue them to pittie; that if they were not ouer-ruled by some others I suppose I should haue soone Gained my liberty; as that I was a man lueing by² my Creditt In debt to diuers in our Sittey, lueing in more then ordinary Charges in a Close³ and tedious prison; besides Great Rents abroad all my busines lying still my onely servant lying lame in the Countrey my wife being alsoe Great with child; and yett noe answer vntill the lords of his Ma^{ties} Councell Gaue Consent: howbeit m^r Blackwell a man as deep in this action, as I was deliuered att a Cheaper Rate with a great deale lesse adoe; yee with an addition of the archbishops blessing; I ame sorry for m^r Blackwells weaknes I wish it may proue noe worse, but yett hee and some others of them, were not sorry but thought it was for the best that I was Nominated Not because the Lord sanctifyes euill to Good but that the action was Good; yea for the best; one Reason I well Remember hee vsed was because this trouble would Increase the Virginia plantation; that now people began More Generally to Incline to Goe and if hee had not Nominated some such as I; hee had not bin free being it was knowne that Many Cittizens besides them selues were theire; I expect an Answare shortly what they Intend Concerning mee; I purpose to write to some other of you; by whom you shall know the Certainty, thus Not haueing further att p^rsent to acquaint you withall Comending my selfe to your prayers I sease and Comitt you and vs all to the Lord; from my Chamber in wood street Counter Sept: 4th 1618

Your frind and Brother in bonds

SABIN STARESMORE

But thus much by the way which may be of Good vse I haue bin the larger in these thinges that the Rising Generation may seriously take notice of the many difficultyes theire poor leaders⁴ vnderwent in the first enterprises toward coming into New England⁵

But att last after all these thinges and theire longe Attendance

¹ Here the letters "wh" are crossed out.

² Here some letters are crossed out.

³ Here the words "in and tedious" are crossed out.

⁴ Here the letters "vnde" are crossed out.

⁵ The sentence beginning "I haue bin" and ending with "New England" is written in the margin.

they had a Patent Graunted them and Confeirmed vnder the Companies seale but these deuisions and distractions had shaken of Many of their pretended frinds and disapointed them of many of their hoped for and proffered meanes; by the advice of some frinds this Pattent was Not taken in the Name of any of their owne But in the Name of m^r John Wincobb a Religious Gentleman then belonging to the Countice of Lincolne; whoe Intended to Goe with them But God soe disposed as hee Neuer went Nor they neuer made vse of this Pattent which had Cost them soe much labour and Charge; as by the sequell will appeer This Pattent being sent ouer for them to view and Consider as alsoe the passages about the propositions between them and such Marchants and frinds as should either Goe or adventure with them, and especially with them on whome they did Cheiffly depend for shiping and meanes whose proffers had bin large they were Requested to fitt and prepare themselues with all ¹ speed;

A Right Imblem It may be of the vncertaine thinges of this world that when men have toyled them selues they vanish into smoak;

vpon a Receipt of these thinges by one of their Messengers they had a sollemne meeting and a day of humilliation to seeke the lord for his direction And their Pastour took this text 1 Sam: 23: 3: 4: and dauids men said vnto him see wee be affraid heer 'in Judah;² how much more if wee Come to Keilah against the host of the Philistines; Then dauid asked Counsell of the Lord againe; from which text hee taught many thinges very aptly and befitting their present occation and condition to strengthen³ them against their feares and p^rplexeties and Incurrageing them in their Resolutions; [22]

In the foregoing fiae Chapters the Reader may take a view of some of the many difficulties our blessed prdecessors went through in their first ⁴ acheiuement of this waightey Interprise of Remouall of our Church into these American p^rtes; the Imediate following Relations in m^r Bradfords book (out of which diuers of these matters are Recollected) doe more especially Concerne the Conditions of their agreement; with seuerall Marchant adventures towards

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² This word has been altered.

³ Here a word is interlined and crossed out.

⁴ Here two or three letters are crossed out.

the voyage &c: as alsoe seuerall ¹ letters sent too and fro from frind to frind Relateing to the premises which are Not soc p^rtenent to the Nature of this smale history; wherfore I shall heer omitt to Insert them; Judging them Not soe suitable to my p^rsent purpose, and heer alsoe sease to follow the foregoeing meathod; by way of Capters;

After such trauell and tormoiles ² and debates which they went thorow thinges were Gotten Reddy for their departure from Leyden a smale shipp ³ was provided in holland of about sixty tun which was Intended as to serue ⁴ to transport some of them ouer the seas; soe to stay in the Country and to tend vpon ffishing; and such other affaires as might be for the Good and benifitt of the whol, when they should Come to the place Intended; another ⁵ was hiered att London of burden about Nine score and all other thinges Gott in a Reddynes, soe be[ing] realdy to depart they had a day of sollemne humilliation their Pastour takeing his te[xt] fr[om] Ezra the 8th 21 and their att the Riuer by ⁶ Ahaua I proclaimed a ffast, that [wee] might humble ourselues before our God and seek of him a Right way for vs and our children and for all our substance ⁷ vpon which hee spent a good p^rte of the day very profitably and suitably to their p^rsent occation the Rest of the time was spent in powering out prayers to the lord with Great feuceny mixed with aboundance of teares; and the time being Come that they must depart they were accompanied with the most of their bretheren out of the Citty vnto a towne sundry miles off Called dealfes hauen; where the shipp lay Reddy to Receiue them; soe they left that Goodly and pleasant Citty which had bin their Resting place Neare 12 yeers, but they kne[w] they were pilgrimes ⁸ and looked not much on those thinges, but lifted vp their eyes to heauen; their dearest Country and quieted their speritts; when they Came to the place they fou[nd] the shipp and all thinges Reddy, and such of their frinds as Could Not Come with them followed after them; and sundry alsoe Came from Amster-

much of their troubles Respecting this matter is not expressed in this booke

heb: 11

¹ Here a letter is crossed out.

² Here a word, perhaps "turmoill," is crossed out.

³ The Speedwell, which is nowhere mentioned by name in Bradford's History.

⁴ Here a word or two are crossed out.

⁵ The Mayflower.

⁶ Written above "of," crossed out.

⁷ The words from "Gott in" to "our substance" are underscored.

⁸ Cf. Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, xvii. 293-391.

of this see
New Eng-
lands Memo-
riall page 4: 5:

dam to see them shippt, and to ¹ take their leaue of them; that Night was spent with little sleep by the most, but with frindly entertainment and Christian discourse; and other Reall expressions of true Christian loue the Next day the wind being ffaire they went on board and frinds with them; wher truly dolfull was the sight of that sad and Mornfull p^rteing to see what sythes and sobbs and prayers did sound amongst them; what² teares did Gush from euery eye; and pithey speeches peirsed each others harte; That sundry of the duch strangers that stood on the keey as spectators ³ Could Not Refraine from teares; yett Comfortabl and sweet it was to see such liuely and true expression of deare and vnfeigned loue but the tide which stayes for noe man Calling them away that were thus loth to depart their Reuerend Pastour falling downe on his knces and they all with him with watery Cheekes Comended them with most feruent prayers to the lord and his blessing and then with mutuall Imbraces and many teares they took their leaues of one another which proued to be their last leaue to many of them;

Thus hoysing sayle with a prosperous wind they Came in short time to Southampton where they found the bigger shipp Come from london lying Reddy with all the Rest of their Companie after a Joyfull welcome and mutuall Congratulation, with other frindly entertainments; they fell to parley ⁴ about their future proceedings;

. A breife letter written by m^r John Robinson to m^r John Caruer att their p^rteing aboue said in which the tender loue and Godly Care of a true Pastour appeers;

MY DEAR BROTHER

I Receiued enclosed your last letter and Note of Information which I shall Carefully keep and mak vse of, as their shalbe occation, I haue a true feeling of your p^rplexety of mind [23] and toyle of body; but I hope that you; haueing alwayes bin able soe plentifully to adminnester Comfort vnto others, in their tryalls are soe well furnished for your self, as that farr Greater difficulties then you haue yett vndergon; though I

¹ Here the letters "th" are crossed out.

² Here the letters "de" are crossed out.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

⁴ Here a word is crossed out.

Conceiue them to be Great; enough; Can not oppresse you though¹ they presse you as the Apostle speaketh; the sperit of a man (sustained by the speritt of God) will sustaine his Infermities; I doubt not soe will youers, and the better much when you shall Injoy the p^rsence and healep of soe many Godly and wise bretheren, for the bearing of p^rte of your burden; whoe alsoe will not Admitt into theire harts, the least thought of suspision; of Any the least Negligence att least presumption to haue bin in you; whatsoeuer they think in others; Now what shall I say² or writt vnto you, and your Good wife my loueing sister; euen onely this; I desire (and alwaies shall) mercy and blessing vnto you from the Lord as vnto my owne soule; and Assure your self that my hart is with you; and that I will not foreslow my bodily Comeing att the first opportunitie; I haue written a large letter to the whole and am sorry I shall nott Rather speak then write to them, and the more Considering the want of a preacher which I shall alsoe mak some spurr to my hastening towards you, I doe euer Comend my best affection vnto you: which, if I thought you made any doubt of; I would expresse in more and the same more ample and full words And the lord in whom you³ trust: and whom you serue, euer in this busines; and Journey, Guid you with his hand, protect you with his winge, and shew you and vs, his saluation, in the end, and bringe vs in the mean while together in the place desired, (if such be his Good will) for his Christ⁴ his sake

Amen yours

JOHN ROBINSON

July 27th 1620

This was the last letter that m^r Caruer liued to see from him;

Att theire p^rteing m^r Robinson writt a letter to the whole Companie which although it hath alreddy bin printed yett I thought Good heer likewise to Insert it;

LOUEING CHRISTIAN FRINDS.

I doe hartily and in the Lord sallute you as being those with whom I am p^rsent in my best affections and most earnest longings after you; though I be Constrained for a while to be bodily absent from you I say Constrained, God knowing⁵ how willingly much Rather then otherwise I would haue bourne my p^rte with you in this first brunt were I Not by

¹ Here a word or letter is crossed out.

² Here the words "or write" are crossed out.

³ Written above "wee," crossed out.

⁴ Altered from "Christes."

⁵ Here the letter "w" is crossed out.

strong Nessesitie held back for the p^rsent, Make account of mee in the mean while as of a man deuied in my selfe with Great paine and as (Naturall bonds sett asside) haueing my better p^rte with you and though I doubt not but in your¹ Godly wisdom you both² foresee & Resolue vpon that which Concerneth your p^rsent state, and Condition both seuerally and Joyntly yett haue I thought it but my duty to adde some further spurr of prouocation to them that Run well alreddy, if not because you need it, yett because I owe it, in loue and duty; and first as wee are dayly to Renew our Repentance with our God especially for our sins known and Generally for our vnknowne sines, and trespasses soe doth the Lord Call vs in a singular Manor vpon occations of such difficulty, and danger as lyeth vpon you to a both more Narrower serch and Carefull Reformation of our waies in his sight, least hee Calling to Remembrance our sines forgotton by vs or vnrepented of, tak advantage against vs and in Judgment leaue vs for the same, to be swallowed vp in one danger or other, wheras on the Contrary sin being taken away by earnest Repentance and the p^rdon therof from the Lord sealed vp from a mans Conscience by his speritt Great shalbe the securitie and peace in all dangers sweet his Comfort in all destresses with happ deliuerance from all euill whether in life or in death;

Now next after this heauenly peace with God, and our owne Consciences wee are Carefully to prouide for peace with all men what in vs lyeth [24] especially with our Associates and for that watchfulnes must be had that wee Neither att all in our selues doe Giue noe Nor easily take offence being Given by others woe be vnto the world for offences, for although it be Nessesary Considering the Mallice of Satan, and Mans Corruption, that offences come yett woe vnto that man or woman either, by whom the offence Cometh saith Christ Mat: 18-7: and if offences in vnseasonable vse of thinges in themselues Indifferent be more to be³ feared then death it selfe as the Apostle teacheth 1 Cor. 9: 15. how much more in thinges simply euill in which neither honor of God nor loue of man is thought worthy to be Regarded; Neither yett is it sufficient that wee keep ourselues by the Grace of God from Giueing offence except with all wee be armed against the takeing of them; when they be Given by others, for how vnperfect and lame is the worke of Grace in that p^rson whoe wants Charity to Couer a multitude of offences,⁴ or wisdom

¹ Written above a word crossed out.

² Here "foresee" is crossed out.

³ Here "hated" is crossed out.

⁴ Here Morton has omitted Bradford's "as the scriptures speaks. Neither are you to be exhorted to this grace only upon the commone grounds of Chris-

duely to wey humaine frailties or lastly and Grossely though Close hypocrites as Christ our lord teacheth mat: 7: 1: 2: 3: as indeed in my owne experience few or none haue bin found which sooner Giue offence; then such as easely tak it; Neither haue they euer proued sound and profittable Members in societies which haue Nurrished this touchey humer but besides these there are diuers motiues provoaking you aboue others to Great care and Conscience this way;

as first you are many of you strangers as to the p^rsons soe to the Infeirmities one of another and soe stand in Need of more watchfulnes this way least when such things fall out in men and weomen, as you suspected not you be Inordinately affected with them; which doth Require att your hands much wisdom and Charritie for the Couering and preuenting of Insident offences that way And lastly your Intended Course of Ciuill Community will minnester Continuall occation of offence; and wilbe as fewell for that fier except you dilligently quench it; with brotherly forbearance; and if takeing of offence Causlesly or ezely att Mens doeinges; be soe Carefully to be¹ avoided how much more heed is to be taken that wee take Not offence att God himselfe which yett wee Certainly doe soe oft as wee doe murmer att his prouidence in our Crosses or beare Impatiently such afflictions as wherwith hee pleaseth to visite vs, Stor vp therefore² Patience against the euill day without which wee take offence att the Lord himself in his holy and Just workes;

A further thinge there is Carefully to be prouided for towitt that with our Comon Employments you Joyne Comon affections truly bent vpon the Generall Good; avoiding as a deadly plague of your both Comon and speciall Comfort all Retirednes of mind for proper advantagee and all singularly affected any manor of way; lett euery man Represse in himselfe and the whole body in each p^rson as soe many Rebells against the Comon Good all private Respect of mens selues not sorting with the Generall Conueniency; and as men are Carefull not to haue a New house shaken with any violence before it be well settled and the p^rtes feirmly knitt soe be you I beseech you much more Carefull; that the house of God which you are and are to be: be not shaken with vnnessesary Nouelties or other oppositions att the first settleing therof lastly wheras you are to become a body Politique vseing amongst your selues Ciuill Gou^rment; and are Not furnished with any p^rsons of speciall eminency about the Rest to be Chosen by you into office of Gou^rment; lett your wisdom,

tianity, which are, that persons ready to take offence, either wante charitie, to cover offences" (History, i. 132).

¹ Here one or two letters are crossed out.

² Here "the" is crossed out.

and Godlynes appeer not onely in Chosing such p^rsons; as doe Intirely loue and will promote the Comon Good; but alsoe in yeilding vnto them all¹ due honor and obeidience in theire lawfull adminestrations; Not beholding in them the ordinarines of theire p^rsons; but Gods ordinarines for yourer Good; not being like the folish; multitude; whoe more honor a Gay Coate then either the² vertuose mind of the Man or Glorouse ordinance of God [25] But you know better thinges and that the Image of the Lords power And Authoritie which the Majestrate beareth is honorable in how meane p^rsons soeuer; and this duty you both may the more willingly and ought the More Consionably to p^rforme because you are att least for the p^rsent, to haue them for yourer ordinary Gouⁿors which yourer selues shall make Choise of, for that work;

Sundry other thinges³ of Importance I Could put you in Mind of; and of those before mensioned in More words, but I will not soe farr wrong yourer Godly minds as to think you heedles of these thinges there being alsoe diuers among you well able to Admonish both them⁴ selues and others; of what Concerneth them; These few thinges therfore and the same in few words; I doe earnestly Comend vnto yourer Care and Consience Joyning therwith my dayly Inceasent prayers vnto the Lord; that hee whoe hath made the heauens and the earth the sea and all Riuers of waters and whose prouidence is ouer all his workes especially ouer all his deare Children for Good would soe Guid and Gaurd you in yourer wayes, as Inwardly by his speritt soe outwardly by the hand of his power; as that you and wee alsoe for and with you may haue after matter of praising his Name all the dayes of yourer & our liues, fare you well in him in whom you trust and in home I Rest

An vnfeigned wellwiller of yourer happy succes in this hopefull voyage

JOHN ROBINSON;

This letter though large being soe fruitfull in it self and suitable to theire occations I thought meet to Insert in this place;

All thinges being Gott Reddy And euery busines dispatched the Companie was Called together and this Letter Read Amongst them; which had Good Acceptation with all and after ffruite with many then they ordered and distributed theire Companie for either shipp as they Conceiued for the best; and Chose a Gou^r and two or three

¹ Here "dew" is crossed out.

² Written above "a," crossed out.

³ Here "and" is crossed out.

⁴ Here the letters "sel" are crossed out.

Assistants for each ¹ shipp, to order the people by the way and to see to the disposing of their provisions, and such like affaires, all which was Not onely with the likeing of the Masters of the shippes, but According to their desires, which being done; they sett sayle from thence about the fift of August, But what befell them further vpon the Coast of England will Appear in the ² book Intitled New Englands Memoriall page 10

And likewise of the voyage and how they passed the sea and of their safe Ariuall att Cape Codd; see New Englands Memoriall page 12 [26]

Being Now passed the vast ocean and a sea of troubles before their preparation vnto further proceedings as to seeke out a place for habitation &c: They fell downe vpon their Knees and blessed the God of heauen whoe had brought them ouer the vast and furious Ocean, and deliuered them from all p'rills and Misseryes thereof againe to sett their fleet on the firme and stable earth their proper Ellement; and Noe Maruell if they were thus Joyfull seeing wise Seneca was soe affected with sayleing a few miles on the Coast of his owne Italy as hee affeirmed hee had Rather Remaine twenty yeeres in his way by land then pas by sea to any place in a short time soe tedious and dreadfull was the same to him;

they ariued
att Cape
Codd the 11th
of Nouemb:
1620 in safty

Epist 53

But heer I Can not but stay and make a Pause and stand half amased att these poor peoples Condition and soe I think will the Reader to, when hee well Considers the same for haueing passed through many troubles, both before and vpon the voyage as aforesaid; They had now Noe frinds to welcome them Noe Inns to entertaine or Refresh them, noe houses much lesse townes to Repaire vnto to seek for succor It is recorded in Scripture as a mercye to the Apostle; and his shipwrecked companie that the barbarians shewed them noe smale kindnes in Refreshing them; but these salvage Barbarians when they mett with them, as after will appeer; were Reddier to fill their sydes full of Arrowes then otherwise and, for the season; it was winter; and they that know the winters of that Countrey, know them to be sharp and violent and subject to violent stormes dangerouse to trauell to knowne places much more to serch out

¹ Written above "either," crossed out.

² Here one or two words are crossed out.

vnknowne Coasts; besides what could they see¹ but a heidious and desolate² wildernes full of wild beastes and wild men and what multitudes there might be of them they knew not Neither could they (as it were) Goe vp to the topp of Pisdag to view from this wildernes a more Goodly Companie³ to feed theire Hopes, for which way soe⁴ euer they turned theire eyes (saue vpward to the heauens) they could haue little solace or Content in Respect of any outward objects, for somer being done all thinges stand for them to look vpon⁵ with a weatherbeaten face, and the whole Country being full of woods and thicket[s] Represented a wild and saluage hiew if they looked behind them there was the mighty ocean which they had passed; and was now as a maine barr and Gulf to separate them from all the Ciuill p^rtes of the world; if it be said they had a shipp to succour them it is true but what heard they dayly from the Master and Companie but that with speed they should look out a place with theire shallopp where they would⁶ be att some Neare distance for the season was such as hee would not stirr from thence vntill a safe harbour was discouered by them where they would be and hee might goe without danger; and that victuales Consumed apace but hee must and would keep sufficient for him self, and Companie for theire Return yee it was muttered by some that if they Gott Not a place in time they would turne them and theire Goods on shore and leaue them; lett it be alsoe Considered what weak hopes of supply and succor they left behind them that might beare vp theire minds in this sad Condition and tryalls they were vnder and they Could not but be very smale; It is true Indeed the affections and loue of theire bretheren att Leyden was Cordiall and Intire but they had little power to healp them or themselues; and how the Case stood between them and the Marchants att theire Coming away, hath alreddy bin declared what could now sustaine them but the speritt of God, and his Grace; may not and ought Not the Children of these fathers Rightly say our fathers were Englishmen which Came ouer this Great ocian and were Reddy to perish in this wildernes; But

¹ Here "but" is crossed out.

² Here "Companie" is crossed out.

³ Morton's error for Bradford's "cuntrie" (History, i. 156).

⁴ Here a letter is crossed out.

⁵ Here "them" is crossed out.

⁶ Written above "should," crossed out.

they Cryed vnto the lord; and hee heard theire voyce; and looked on theire aduersitie; And lett them therfore praise the lord because hee is Good and his mercyes Indure for euer yee lett them which haue bin the Redeemed of the lord shew how hee hath deliuered them from the hand of the oppressor; when they wandered in the desert wildernes out of the way, and found noe Cittey to dwell in, both hungry and thirsty theire soule was ouerwhelmed in them; lett them Confesse before the lord his loueing kindnes and his wonderfull workes before the Children of Men;

dewtry 26:
5: 7:

Psa: 107
1: 2: 3: 5: 8

of the troubles that befell them after theire ariuall with sundry other p'ticulares Concerning theire theire transactings with the Marchant aduenterers and many other passages not soe p'tinent to this p'sent discourse I shall Refer the Reader to; New Englands memoriall and vnto m^r Bradfords book where they are att large pened to his plentifull satisfaction ¹ and therefore I shall Gather vp some speciall p'ticulars; more properly Relateing to this history as it may ² be called Ecclesiasticall; [27]

Before I pas on I may not omitt to take Notice of the sad losse the Church and this Infant Comonwealth sustained by the death of m^r John Caruer whoe was one of the deacons of the Church in leyden but Now had bine and was theire first Gou^r: this worthy Gentleman was one of singular Piety and Rare for humillitie which appeered (as otherwise) soe by his Great Condesendencie when as this miser-

m^r John
Carvers death

¹ Here "and" is crossed out.

The portion thus far given is printed in Young's Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers, pp. 3-108. In a footnote he said:

"Here we take leave of Morton's copy of Gov. Bradford's History. As the rest of it is lost, except the few scattered passages preserved by Prince and Hutchinson, and as we have a Journal of 'the troubles that befell them after their arrival,' written at the time, and chiefly, as I conceive, by Gov. Bradford, and much more copious and minute than the account in Morton's Memorial, the narrative will proceed in the words of that Journal" (p. 108).

Young then prints what is commonly known as "Mourt's Relation," pp. 109-251. Young was mistaken in supposing that "the rest of" Bradford's History was "lost, except the few scattered passages preserved by Prince and Hutchinson." What here follows is partly Morton's own, but is largely taken from Bradford's History, sometimes paraphrased by Morton. Indeed, Young himself recognized a few passages as taken from Bradford's History and printed them in his Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers: see pp. 52, 54, 62, 82, 115, below.

² Here "be" is crossed out.

able people were in Great sicknes hee shuned not to doe very meane¹ services for them yee the meanest of them; hee bore a share likewise of their labour in his owne p^rson; according as their Great Necessitie Required; whoe being one alsoe of a Considerable estate spent the Maine p^rte of it, in this enterprise and from first to last approued himself, not onely as their agent in the first Transacting of thinges, but alsoe all alonge to the Period of his life; to be a pious faithfull and very beneficiall Instrument; hee deceased in the Month² of Aprill in the year 1621, and Now is Reaping the fruite of his labour with the lord;³

January 25
1623

⁴ With a letter written by M^r Sherly to M^r Bradford these following objections were sent, which were not his, but were made by Adversaries against the Church; and their proceedings; which I thought meet to Insert with their Answers; as followeth;

1 objection was diuersitie about Religion

Answr Wee know Noe such Matter for heer was neuer any Controversye or opposition either publicke or private to our knowledge since wee Came;

2 obj Neglect of family duties on the Lords day

Answ Wee allow noe such thinge but blame it in our selues and others, and they that thus Report it should haue shewed their Christian loue the more if they had in loue tould the offenders of it Rather then thus to Reproach them behind their backes; But to say noe more; wee wish them selues had Giuen better example;

3 object Want of both the Sacraments;

Answ the more is our Greiff that our Pastour is Kept from vs by whom wee might Injoy them; for wee vsed to haue the Lords Supper euery sabbath and Baptismee as often as there was occasion of Children to Baptise;

4 object Children not Cattachised nor taught to Read;

Answ; This is Not true in Neither p^rte therof for diuers take paines with their owne as they Can; Indeed wee haue noe Comon scoole for want of a fitt p^rson or hitherto meanes to maintaine one though wee desire now to begin;

¹ Written above another word, crossed out.

² Here "of" is crossed out.

³ This paragraph is printed in Young's Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers, p. 200 note.

⁴ Three or four words are crossed out before "With."

When the Answers to these objections aboue mentioned were sent ouer att the Returne of the shipp; the aforesaid letter came in; the objectors were soe Confounded as some of them Confessed their faults and others denyed what they had said; and eat their words, and some others of them haue since Come ouer againe and heer liued to Convince themselues sufficiently both in their owne and other ¹ Judgments seuerall other objections of other Nature were made besides those aboue Named which with their Answers I will not att p^rsent trouble the Reader with But these aboue I thought meet to Insert that the Reader may desern with what difficulties of all sorts our deare honored predessors Grappled with;

heer followeth a letter from m^r Robinson to m^r Brewster our Elder wherein the Reader may descene the sollisitous Care of a faithfull Pastour to his flock and the singular loue that mutually was expressed between those two holly men whoe were fellow Elders in the same flock; &c:

LOUEING AND DEARE FRIND AND BROTHER that which I most desired of God in Regard ² of you; Namely the Continuance of your life and health and the safe Coming of these sent vnto you; That I most Gladly heare of and praise God for the same; and I hope m^{rs} ³ Brewsters weak and decayed state of Body will haue some Repaireing by the coming of her daughters; and the prouisions in this and other shipp sent; which I heare is made for you; which makes vs with [28] the more Patience beare our Languishing state and the defering of the desiring of our desired transportation (which I call desired Rather then hoped for) whatsouever you are bourn in hand with by others for first there is Noe hope att all that I know nor Can Conceiue off of any New stock to be Raised for that end soe that all must depend vpon Returnes from you in which are soe may vncertaintyes; as that Nothing with any Certainty Can thence be Concluded besides howsoeuer for the p^rsent the aduenterers alledge Nothing but want of Mony; which is an Invinceable difficulty yett if that be taken away by you, others without doubt wilbe found; for the better clearing of this wee must dispose the aduenterers into three p^rtes and off them some fve or six (as I conceiue) are absolutely bent for vs aboue others, other 5: or 6: are our bitter professed adversaries,

¹ Perhaps "others."

² Here the words "for you" are crossed out.

³ Perhaps "m^{tris}."

The Rest being the body; I Conceiue to be honestly minded and loueing alsoe towards vs; yett such as haue others; Namly the forward preachers nearer vnto them then vs; and whose Course soe farr as there is any difference they would advance Rather then ours; Now what a hanke these men haue ouer the professors you know and I p^rsware my selfe that for mee they of all others are vnwilling I should be transported especially such as haue an eye that way themselues as thinking if I come there theire markett wilbe Mared in Many Regards; and for those adversaries,¹ if they haue but halfe theire will to theire Mallice they will stopp my Course when they see it Intended; for which this delaying serueth them very opportunly; and as one Rusty Jade Can hinder by hanging backe more then two or three Can or will att least if they be not very free) draw forward, soe will it be in this case A Noteable experiment of this they Gaue in your Messengers p^rsence Constraining the Companie to promise that none of the Mony Now Gathered should be expended or Employed to the heelp of any of vs towards you; Now touching the question propounded by you I judge it Not lawfull for you being a Ruleing Elder, as Rom 12: 7: 8: and first of tim: 5: 17 opposed to the Elders that teach and exhort and labour in the word and doctrin to which the Sacrament[s] are annexed: to Adminnester them Nor Convenient if it were lawfull; Be you hartily salluted and your wife with you, both from mee and mine; your God and ours and the God of all his; bring vs together if it be his will and keep vs in the mean while and alwaies to his Glory; and make vs seruiceable to his Matⁱe and faithful to the end Amen;

Your very Loueing Brother

JOHN ROBINSON ²

Leyden december 20 1623

By the aboue written Letter it may appeer how much the adversary hindered the Coming of this Blessed servant of Christ from Coming into New England; although hee soe much longed to be with his flock and his flock for him, a worthy patern vnto all Churchs and theire Minesters to be Imitated;

In the springe ariued att New Plymouth a preacher; one m^r John Lyford whoe when hee Came on shore salluted the principall men amongst vs; with that seeming humillitie as is seldom to be seen and Indeed Made them ashamed hee soe bowed and Cringed vnto

¹ Here the words "and for those adversaries" are crossed out.

² This letter is printed in Young's *Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers*, pp. 475-477.

them and would haue kised theire hands if they would haue suffered him (of which were many witnesses []) hee likewise blessed God also that had brought him to see theire faces and admireing the thinges they had done in theire wants &c: as if hee had bin made all of Loue and the humblest p^rson in the world his words being alsoe accompanied with teares; and all the while, if wee may Judge by his after Carriages hee was but like him Mensioned in Psa. 10: 10: that Croucheth and boweth that heapes of poor may fall by his Might, or like to decembling Ishmaell whoe when hee had slaine Gedelia went out weeping and made them which were Coming to offer Inceunce in the house of the Lord, saying come to Gedelia when hee ment to slay them; they Gaue him the best entertainment they Could (in all simplisitie) and a larger allowance of ffood and of the Store then any other had; and as the Gou^r had used in all waighty affaires to Consult with theire Elder m^r Brewster together with theire Assistants soe Now hee Called m^r Lyford alsoe to Counsell in theire waightiest businesses after some short time hee desired to Joyne himself a member of the Church heer and accordingly was Receiued hee made a large Confession of his faith and acknowledgmt of his former disorderly walkeing [29] And his being Intangled with many Corruptions which had bin a burden to his Consience and blessed God for this opportunity of ffreedome and libertie to Injoy the ordinances of God in puritie amongst his people with many more such like expressions; afterwards Joyning with one John Oldum a factious speritted man they shewed a speritt of Mallignitie drawing as many Into faction as they Could were they Neuer soe vild¹ or prophane they did Norish and backe them in all theire doeinges soe they would but Cleaue to them and speak against the Church heer soe as there was Nothing but private meetings and whispering amongst them; they feeding themselues and others with what they should² bring to passe in England by the ffaction of theire frinds there; which brought others as well as themselues into a fooles Parradice yett they Could not Carry soe closly but much of both theire doeings and³ sayings were discouered and outwardly they still sett a fare face of thinges; and they Conspired together and

See New
Englands
memoriall
folio 54

¹ Perhaps "vile."

² Here a letter is crossed out.

³ Here "and" is crossed out.

sent letters for England in Complaints against vs to our adversaries which were of the Marchant adventorers; which letters were Intercepted by the Gou^r; and the said Lyford was detected for opening of letters and other mischeiffes which hee acheiued against ¹ the Church and this poor Infant Comonwelth; Att length matters Grew to such height that Lyford with his Complices without euer speaking one word ² either to the Gou^r: Church or Elder ³ withdrew themselues and sett vp a publicke meeting apart on the Lords day with sundry such Insolent Carriages to longe heer to Relate; And the said Oldum brake forth into open Rebellion against the Gou^rment of the Collonie which p^rticulars being ⁴ proued to theire faces in open Court by the letters the said Lyford sent which were Intercepted as aforsaid, the said Oldum Continewed in his obstinaeye a while but was Curbed att last as will afterwards be Manifest and as for Lyford first they dealt with him in the Church for his disimulation att his Admition therinto; in that hee then professed to Concurr with them in All thinges; and that hee held not him self a minnester till hee had a New Calling &c. and yett hee Now Contested against them and drew a Companie apart and sequestered him self; and would Goe and adminnester the Sacrements (by his Episcopall) Calling without euer speaking a word vnto them either as Majestrates or bretheren

In Conclusion hee was fully Convicted and brak forth into teares and Confessed hee was a Reprobate his sins were soe Great that hee doubted God would Not pardon them hee was vnsauory salt &c: and that hee had soe wronged them as hee could Neuer make them amens Confessing all hee had written against them was ffalse and Nought both for matter and manor; and all this hee did with as much fulnes as words and tears Could expresse;

After theire tryall and Conviction the Court Censured both hee and Oldum to ⁵ depart the Gou^rment Oldum p^rsently; though his wife and family had liberty to stay all winter or Longer vntill hee Could make prouision to Remoue ⁶ them Comfortably; Lyford had

¹ Here "against" is crossed out.

² Here "to" is crossed out.

³ Apparently altered from "Elders."

⁴ Here "openly" is crossed out.

⁵ Here the letters "depa" are crossed out.

⁶ Written above "Releiu," crossed out.

liberty to stay six monthes It was Indeed with some eye to his Release if hee Carryed him self well in the mean time and that his Repentance proued sound Lyford acknowlidged his sentence was farr lesse then hee deserued; Afterwards hee Confessed his sin publickly in the Church with tears more largely then before; I shall heer sett it downe as I find it in writing as it was taken from his mouth That hee had don very euill and Slaunderously abused them; and thinking most of the people would tak p^rte with him; hee thought to Carry all by violence and stronge hand against them; and that God migh Justly lay Inosent blood¹ to his Charge for hee knew Not what hurt might haue Come of these his writings; and blessed God they were Stayed; and that hee spared not to tak knowldige from Any of any Euill; but shutt his eyes and eares against all the Good; and if God should make him a ² vagabond in the earth as was Caine It was but Just for hee had sined in Envie and mallice against his bretheren as hee did; and hee Confessed ³ three thinges to be the Ground and Causes of these his doeinges Prid Vaine Glory and selfe loue amplyfying these heads with Many other sad expressions in the p^rticulars of them soe as they began againe to Conceiue Good thoughts of him vpon this his Repentance, and admitted him to teach amongst them as before; and m^r Samuell ffuller a deacon amongst them and some other tender harted men amongst them were soe taken with his [30] synes of sorrow and Repentance as they professed they would fall vpon their knees to haue his Censure Released;

But that which made them all Stand amased; In the end, and May doe all others that shall Come to heare the same (for a Rarer Presedent can Scarce be seen or shewen) was that after ⁴ a month or two; Nowithstanding all his former Confessions Convictions and former acknowldgments, both in the face of the Church and whole Companie with soe many teares and sad Censures of himself before God and man, hee should Goe againe to Justify what hee had don;

ffor Secretly hee writt a second letter to the aduenterers in Eng-

¹ This word is obscure.

² Here the letters "vab" are crossed out.

³ Here the letters "thr" are crossed out.

⁴ Here "an" is crossed out.

land in which hee Justified all his former writings (saue in some thinges which tended to their damage) the which because it is soe large I shall heer ¹ omitt with the answere heervnto ² least I should treaspus too much on the patience of the Reader;

But before I draw to a Conclusion of this matter I shall Insert a few objections of many that this euill sperited man made against the people of God ³ in this place which I shall faithfully enter with their Answers;

1 hee saith the Church would haue none to liue heer but them selues;

2 Neither are any willing soe to doe if they had Company to liue else where;

Answ their Answere was that this is ffalse in both p^rtes of it for they were willing and desirous of any honest men ⁴ to ⁵ liue with them that will Carry them selues peacably and seek the Comon Good, or att least doe them noe hurt, and againe there are many that will not liue else where soe longe as they may liue with them;

2 That if ⁶ there Comes ouer any honest man; they would soon distast them &c:

Answ There answere was as before that it was a ffalse Callumnation; for they had many Amongst them that they liked well of and were Glad of their Companie, and should be of any such like as should Come amongst them;

3 That they excepted against ⁷ him for these 2 doctrines Raised from 2 Samu 12 first that minnisters must some times p^rticularly apply their doctrine to speciall p^rsons secondly that Great men may be Reproued as well as meaner

Answ: their Answer was that both these were without either truth, or couller of the same as was proued to his face; and that they had taught and beleiued these thinges longe before they knew m^r Lyford:

¹ Here two or three letters are crossed out.

² Here "heervnto" is crossed out.

³ Here a letter is crossed out.

⁴ Here "that" is interlined and crossed out.

⁵ Written above "may," crossed out.

⁶ Here "they C" is crossed out.

⁷ Here "them" is crossed out.

And with these objections hee comes to Giue his frinds Councell one p^rticular wher[of] was that the Leyden Companie (m^r Robinson and the Rest) must still be kept Back or else all wilbe spoyled, and least any of them should be taken in priuately some where on the Coast of England (as it was feared might be done) they must Change the M^r of the shipp m^r Willam Peirse; and put another alsoe in m^r Winslowes Rome for Marchant, or otherwise it would not be prevented,

these p^rticulars are¹ sent by him to the adverse p^rte of the Adventurers

Then hee would haue such a Number provided as would ouersway them heer; and further proposeth to them some wayes, and meanes wherby this may be effected:

Then hee shoves that if by the said meanes they Cannot be strengthened to Carry and ouer beare; thinges; it would be best for him and his Confeaderats; to plant else where by themsel[ves]

Lastly hee concludes that if some Number Comes not ouer to beare them vp viz. him and his² Confeaderates heer, then there would be noe abiding for them but by Joyning with these heer Then hee adds since hee began to write, there are letters Come from your³ Companie wherin they would Giue sole Authoritie in diuers thinges vnto their Gou^r: heer which if it take place then Ve nobis⁴) but I hope you wilbe more Vigelent heerafter that Nothinge May passe in such a Manor,

Thus I haue breiffly touched some of the Cheiff thinges Contained and expressed in his Letters and otherwise; wherby his hipocresye ffalcesnes and mallice appeered; But being loth to be burthensom[e] to the Reader with the more full Relation of matters Concering this Instrument of Sathan to worke⁵ mischiffe and Inded to⁶ Indeaour the ouerthrow of this poor Church and Collonie, I⁷ shall Indeaour to Contract matters, into as Narrow a Rome as I Can if any shall haue a desire to know more of them; I shall Refer them to New Englands Memoria[ll] wherin In p^rte these p^rticulares are Related,

¹ Perhaps "were."

² Here the letters "Con" are crossed out.

³ Written above "the," crossed out.

⁴ The words "Ve nobis" are underscored twice.

⁵ Here a word is crossed out.

⁶ Here "Indeaer" is crossed out.

⁷ Here the words "might haue bin large" are crossed out.

and more especially unto ¹ m^r Bradfords history wherein att large hee may haue a full Relation of these matters in theire seuerall ² Ceromst[ances] [31] Relateing vnto his trayterous Indeuors against vs and his abseane Carriages in Ireland which were discouered on these occations, finally after all these transactions of Matters about him and Oldum fore Named whoe was Copartenor and a Great stickeler in these thinges; both hee the said oldum and Lyford being banished the Collonie for theire aforsaid misdemeanors they went into the Massachusetts Bay, and ³ the said Oldum Goeing on a voyage in a storm ⁴ like to haue bin Cast away about Cape Codd shoules in the Greatnes of his danger and extremity, being in terror of Consience Confessed his fault in his Indeuors against this Collonie; and vowed that if God would please to ⁵ bring him safe to land; hee would; Reforme in that behalf; afterwards hee went on a voyage towards Conecticott, and Neare vnto blocke Iland was ⁶ Crewelly murdered by the India[ns]

And as for John Lyford hee went to Nantaskett being Banished and from thence to Salem where after hee had liued a while hee went to Veginnia and there hee died; in ⁷ all which former discourse with much More that might haue bine said Respecting the p^mises; It doth plainly appeer and is verified; that noe weapon that was formed against this poor fflock of Christ did prosper; and euery tounge that Rose vp in Judgment against them God did Condemne;

Before I Pase on to other matteriall Relations lett the Reader take Notice of a speciall fauor of God and expression of his Goodnes that many whoe before stood somthing off from the Church Now seeing Lyfords vnrighteousnes in his Cariages and dealings and Mallignitie against the Church; Now tendered themselues to the Church and were Joyned to the same professing that it was not out of dislike of any thinge that they had stood of soe longe but a desire to fitt them selues better for such a state; and they saw Now the

¹ Written above "and," crossed out.

² This word is obscure.

³ Here "in" is crossed out.

⁴ Here five or six words are crossed out.

⁵ Here "Restore" is crossed out.

⁶ Written above "with," crossed out.

⁷ Written above "and," crossed out.

Lord Called¹ for their healp and soe the fornamed troubles produced a quite Contrary effect in sundry heer then these Adversaries hoped for which was looked att as a Great worke of God to draw on men by vnlikely meanes, and that in Reason which might Rather haue sett them further of;

Ann^o: 1626

this yeer Robinsons death; further brought them notice of the death of their [a]ncient frind [m]^r Cushman whom the lord tooke away [a]lsoe this yeer [a]bout this time whoe was as their Right hand with their frinds the Adventerours and for diuers yeers had don and agitated all their busines [wi]th them to their Great Advantage²

About the beginning of Aprill Capt: Standish whoe was sent our agent for the Collonie to the Marchant aduenterors to this Collonie in England³ Ariued in New England; Welcome hee was; but the News hee brought was sad in Many Regards but especially in Respect of the Great losse of our former worthy Pastour of whose death hee was the first that brought the sad tidinges therof which struck our Church and the Godly heer with much sorrow and sadness as they had Great Cause;⁴ his and their adversaries had bin Longe and Continewally plotting how they might hinder his Coming hither But the Lord had appointed him a better place Concerning whose death and the Manor therof; It will appeer by these few lines writt to the Gou^r and m^r Brewster;

LOUEING AND KIND FRINDS &c:

I know not whether this will euer Come to your hands or miscarry as other my letters haue done yett in Regard of the Lords dealing with vs heer I haue had a Greatt desire to write vnto you knowing your desire to bear a part with vs both in our Joyes and sorrowes as wee doe with you; these are therefore to Giue you to vnderstand that it hath pleased the Lord to take out of this vale of teares your and our loueing and faithfull pastour and my dear and Reuerend brother m^r John Robinson; whoe was sick some eight dayes; hee began to bee sicke on saterday in the morning yett the next day being the Lords day hee taught vs

¹ Here "them" is crossed out.

² This paragraph is written in the margin.

³ Here "Came" is crossed out.

⁴ Here "and" is crossed out.

twise and soe the week after Grew weaker and weaker euery day more then other yett hee felt Noe paine but weaknes all the time of his sicknes; the Phisicke hee took wrought kindly in Mans Judgment but hee Grew weaker euery day feeling litle or Noe paine and sensible to the very last hee fell sick the 22cond of february and departed this life the first of March hee had a Continuall Inward Ague but free from Infection soe that all his frinds Came freely to him; and if either prayers teares or meanes would haue saued his life hee had not Gon hence; but hee haueing faithfully finished his Course and p^rformed his work which the lord had appointed him heer to doe hee Now Resteth with the [Lo]rd in eternall happines; wee wanting him and all our Church Gou^rnors [32]¹ yett wee still by the Mercye of God Continew and¹ hold Close together in peace and quiet[nes] And soe hope wee shall doe although wee be very weake wishing if such were the will of God that you and wee were againe vnited together in one either there or heer, but seeing it is the will of ² the Lord thus to dispose of thinges wee must labour with Patience to Rest Contented vntill it please the Lord to dispose for vs otherwise Newes heer is Not much only as In England wee haue lost our old Kinge James whoe departed this life about a month agoe soe heer they haue lost their old Prince; Graue Mauris whoe [both] departed this life since my brother Robinson and as in England wee haue a New kinge Charles of whom there is Great hope; soe heer they haue made Prince Hendrick Generall in his brothers Place; Thus with my Loue Remembered I tak Leaue and Rest Your Assured Loueing frind

ROGER WHITE ³

Leyden 28 Aprill
Ano 1625

[Thus] these two Great [princes] and their Pastour [left] this world neare about [one] time; death makes noe [differe]nce;

[A] few poems made by a frind on the deplored death of m^r John Robinson the worthy Pastour of the Church of God att Leyden as followeth

[1] Blessed Robinson hath Run his Race
from earth to heauen is Gon
to be with Christ in heauenly place
the blessed saints amonge

¹ Here the words "yett wee shally by the Mercye of God" are crossed out.

² Here "God" is crossed out.

³ This letter is printed in Young's *Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers*, pp. 478-480.

- [2] A burning and a shining Light
 was hee whiles hee was heer
 a preacher of the Gospell Bright
 whom wee did loue most deare
- [3] What tho hee dead his workes aliue
 and liue will to all Age
 The Comfort of them pleasant is
 To liueing saints each day
- 4 Oh Blessed holy Sauour
 the fountaine of all Grace
 from whom such blessed Instruments
 are sent and Run their Race
- 5 To lead vs to and Guid vs in
 the way to happines
 That soe oh Lord wee may alwaies
 for euermore Confesse
- 6 That whosoeuer Gospell preacher be
 or waterer of the same
 Wee may alwayes most Constantly
 Giue Glory to thy Name

About Ann^o: dom 1628 a Certaine young man Came ouer to be a Minnester to the peop[le] heer whether att the motion of some frinds or Noe I well know not, but am sure is with[out] any Invitation from the Church for they had smarted; by m^r Lyford soe as they desir[ed] to know the p^rson well whome they should Invite amongst them his Name was m^r Roger[s] but they p^rseiued vpon some tryall that hee was Crased in his braine soe they were fai[n] to be att further Charge to send him back againe the Next yeer and lose all the Charge that was expended in his hither bringing; which was not smale; and after hee departed hee Grew qvite distracted;

About this time Not long after m^r Rogers his departure; one m^r Ralph Smith and his wif[e] and family Came ouer into the Massachusetts Bay and sojourned att p^rsent with th[e] stragling people which liued at Nantaskett; heer being a boate off this place put in there on some occation; hee earnestly desired they would Giue him

and his pas[sage] for Plymouth and som such thinges as they Could well Carry; haueing before hear[d that] there was likelyhood hee might procure housrome for some time vntill hee should [r]esolue to settle if hee might there or elsewhere as God should dispose for hee [was w]eary of being in that vncoth place and in a poor house that would Neither [keep him n]or his Goods dry soe seeing him to be [a Grave man] and [understood] hee had bin a Minnester [though they had no order for any shuch thing, yet they presumed and brought him. He was here accordingly kindly entertained and housed, and had the rest of his goods and servants sente for, and exercised his gifts amongst them, and afterwards was chosen into the ministrie, and so remained for sundrie years.] [33]

In Ann^o 1629 a Considerable Number of the bretheren of the Church which were le[ft] in holland were Transported ouer to vs that were of the Church in New England which although it was att About 500^{lb} charge yett it was bourne Chearfully by¹ the poor bretheren heer Concerned in It; alsoe about that time seuerall Godly p^rsons; some wherof had bin of m^r Laythorps Church in England and others alsoe Came to vs out of England; soe that wee becaime through the Goodnes of God pretty² Numerous and were in the best estate Respecting the Church that wee had as yett bine in New England; Althoug for minnistry it was low with vs;³ for as was before Noted; they had Chosen m^r Ralph Smith fore Named to be theire Pastour yett hee proued but a [poor] healp⁴ to[~] them in that being but of very weake⁵ p^rtes in the [] of the Minnistry; onely they had a Great healp by theire Reuer[ed] m^r Brewster whoe was well Accomplished with Gifts and G[] for such worke; they had alsoe some Good healp by a Godly y[] Called m^r Roger Williams of whom I would Craue libertie to [] a few words;

M^r Roger Williams A man Godly and Zealous (saith m^r Brad[ford] haueing Many p^rsious p^rtes but very vnsettled in Judgment) Came o[ver first] to the Massachusetts but vpon some discontent; left that place and Came [hither] where hee was frindly entertained

¹ Here "our" is crossed out.

² Here "New" is crossed out.

³ Written above "them," crossed out.

⁴ Here something is crossed out.

⁵ Here something is crossed out.

according to theire abillitie and exer[cised] his Gifts amongst them; And after some time was Admitted a Member [of the] Church and his teaching well approued for the benifitt thereof (saith h[e] I) Still blesse God and am thankefull to him euen for his sharpest Adm[onitions] & Reproffes soe farr as they agreed with truth; hee this yeer fell [into] some strange oppinions; and from oppinion to practice, which caused some Controuersye between the Church and him; and in the end some discontent[t] on his p^rte; By occation wherof hee left them somthing abruptly; yett afterwards sued for his dismission to the Church of Salem which w[as] Graunted with some Caution to them Concerning him but hee¹ soon fell into more things there both to theire and the Gou^rments trouble and disturbance I shall not need to Name p^rticulars they are to well knowne now to all though for a time the Church here went vnder some hard sensures by his occation from some that afterwards smarted themselves; But hee is to be pittied and prayed for; And soe I shall leaue the matter and desire the lord to shew him his errors and Reduce him into the way of truth and Giue him a settled Judgment and Constancy in the same; for I hope hee belongs to the Lord;

Wheras seuerall of those which Came from Leyden Came ouer in the shippes which Came to Salem where m^r Indicott had Cheiffe Command and by Infection which Grew amongst the passengers; It spread alsoe in them on shore; of which many died some of the Scirvey and [others of] Infectious² feauors which Continewed sometime amon[gst them] though our people through Gods Goodnes escaped vpon wh[ic]h occasion] hee wrote to Plymouth for some healp vnderstanding that th[ere was one] that had skill that way and had Cu[red] diuers of the scurvie] and others of other deseases by lett[ing] blood and other means] [vp]on which his Request [the Governor here sent him unto them, and also write to him, from whom he received an answere; the which, because it is breefe, and shows the begining of their acquaintance, and closing in the truth and ways of God, I thought it not unmeete, nor without use, hear to inserte it; and another showing the begining of their fellowship and church estate ther.] [34]

¹ Written above "they," crossed out.

² Here "deseases" is crossed out.

RIGHT WORTHY SIR

It is a thinge Not vsuall that servants of one m^r: and the same household should be strangers And I assure you I desire it Not Nay to speak more plainly I cannot be soe to you; Gods people are all marked with one and the same marke and sealed with one and the same seale and haue for the maine one and the same hart Guided by one and the same speritt of truth; and where this is their Can be Noe discord Nay heer must needs be sweet harmony and the Request with you I make vnto the Lord that wee may be as Christian Bretheren; vnited by a heauenly and vnfeyned loue bending all our harts and forces in furthering a worke beyond our strength with Reuerence and fear fastening our eyes alwayes on him that onely is able to direct and prosper all our waies I acknowledge my self much bound to you for your kind loue and Care in sending m^r fuller amongst vs and Rejoyce much that I am by him satisfied touching your Judgments of the outward forme of Gods worshipp; It is as farr as I Can yett Gather; noe other then is warranted by the euidence of truth and the same which I haue professed and Maintained euer since the Lord in Mercye Reveiled himself to mee; being farr from the Comon Report that hath bin spread of you touching that p^ticular; But Gods Children must not looke for lesse heer below and it is a Great Mercye of God that hee strengthens them to Goe through with it; I shall not Need att this time to be tedious vnto you for God willing I purpose to see your face shortly; In the mean time I humbly take my leaue of you Comitting you to the Lords blessing and Protection

And Rest your Assured Loueing frind

JOHN ENDICOTT

Neamkeak May 11th Ann^o: 1629

This 2cond letter sheweth the proceedings in their Church affaires att Salem which was the second Church erected in these p^rtes and afterwards the Lord aded many more in sundry other places;

SIRE

I make bold to trouble you with a few lines for to Certify you how it pleased God to deal with vs since you heard from vs; how Notwithstanding all opposition that hath bin heer and elsewhere It hath pleased God to lay a foundation the which I hope is agreeable to his word in euery thinge; the 20th of July It pleased the Lord to moue the hart of our Gou^r: to sett it apart for a sollemne day of humilliation; for the Choise of a Pastour and Teacher the former p^rte of the day being spent in prayer and teaching the latter p^rte About the election which was after this Manor; the p^rsons thought on whoe had bin minnisters in England were

demanded Concerning their Callings; they acknowledged there was a two fould Calling; the one an Inward¹ Calling when the Lord moued the hart of a man to take that Calling vpon him and fitted him with Gifts for the same the second was an outward Calling which was from the people; when a Companie of beleiuers, are Joyned together in Couenant to walk together in all the wayes of God and euery member (being men) are to haue a free voyce in Choise of their officers &c; Now wee being p^rswaded that these two men were soe quallified as the Apostle speakes to timothy when hee saith a bishop must be blamles sober apt to teach &c I think I may say as the Eunuch said vnto Phillip what should lett from being baptised seeing there was water and hee beleueed; for these two servants of God Clearing all thinges by their answares and being thus fitted wee saw Noe Reason but wee might freely Giue our voyces for their election after this tryall soe m^r Skilton was Chosen Pastour and m^r higgenson to be Teacher; and they accepting the Choise m^r higgenson with three or four of the Grauest Members of the Church layed their hands on m^r Skilton vseing prayer therwith; this being done there was Imposition of hands on m^r higgenson alsoe; and since that time, thursday being as I tak if the 5th of August is appointed for another day of humilliation for the Choise of Elders and deacons and ordaining them,

And Now Good Sir I hope that you and the Rest of Gods people whoe are acquainted with the wayes of God with you will say that heer was a Right foundation layed and that these two blessed servants of the Lord Came in att the dore and Not att the window; thus I haue made bould to trouble you with these few lines desiring you to Remember vs, and soe Rest

Att your service in what I may

CHARLES GOTT

Salem July 30 1629

[35]

A few pticulars more Concerning the proceedings of our Reuerend frinds In the bay of the Massachusetts, whoe were lately Come ouer I thought it not amise heer to Insert then soe farr as p^rtenent to the p^rsent purpose and may be vsefull for after times;

SIR

Being att Salem the 25th of July being the sabbath after the euening exercise m^r Johnson Receiued a letter from the Gou^r m^r John Winthrop manyfesting the hand of God to be vpon them and against them att

¹ Written above "outward," crossed out.

Charlstowne in visiting them with sicknes and takeing diuers from amongst them; Not sparing the Righteous but p'takeing with the wicked in these bodily Judgments It was therfore by his desires taken into the Godly Consideration of the best heer what was to be don to passify the Lords wrath &c: wher it was Concluded that the lord was to be sought in Righteousness and to that end the sixt day being fryday of this p'sent weeke is sett apart that they may humble themselues before God and seek him in his ordinances; and that then alsoe such Godly p'sons that are amongst them and knowne each to other may publickly att the end of their exercise make knowne their desires and and practice the same viz: Sollomly to enter into Couenant with the lord to walk in his wayes; and since they are soe disposed of in their outward estates as to liue in three distinct places each haueing men of Abillities¹ amongst them there to obserue the day; and become three distinct bodies not then Intending Rashly to proceed to the Choice of officers or the admitting of any other to their societie then a few viz. such as are well knowne vnto them promising after to Receiue such by Confession of faith as shall appeer to be fitly qvallified for that estate; they doe earnestly Intreat that the Church of Plymouth would sett apart the same day for the same ends beseeching the Lord as to with draw his hand of Correction from them soe alsoe to establish and direct them in his wayes and tho the time be short wee pray you be prouoked to this Godly worke seeing the causes are soe vrgent wherin God wilbe honored and they and wee vndoubtedly haue sweet Comfort be you all kindly salluted &c:

Youer bretheren in Christ, &c:²

Salem July 26 1630

SIR

the sad newes heer is that many are sicke and Many are dead the lord in Mercye look vpon them some are heer entered into Church Couenant the first were four Namely the Gou^r: m^r John Winthrop m^r Johnson m^r Dudley and m^r Wilson; since that fve more are Joyned to them and others it is lik will adde them selues to them dayly the lord Increase them both in Number and in holines for his Mercyes sake; heer is a Gentleman one m^r Cottington a boston Man whoe told mee that m^r Cottons Charge att hamton was; that they should take advise of them att Plymouth; and should doe Nothing to offend them; heer are diuers honest

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² "Signed by Samuel Fuller and Edward Winslow, but evidently written by Winslow" (W. C. Ford, *Bradford's History*, ii. 114 note 4).

Christians that are desirous too see vs; some out of loue which they beare to vs and the Good p^swasion they haue of vs; others to see whether wee be soe ill as they haue heard of vs; wee haue a Name of holines and loue to God and his saints the lord Make vs more and more Answarable and that it may be More then a Name or else it will doe vs Noe Good be you loueingly salluted and all the Rest of our frinds; The Lord Iesus blesse vs and the whole Israell of God Amen

Youer loueing Brother &c¹

Charlstowne Augst
the second 1630

[36]

This yeer the people of the Plantation of Plymouth began to ¹⁶³² Grow in their outward estates by Reason of the fflowing of Many people into the Country especially into the Bay of y^e Massachusetts by which meanes Corne and Cattle Rose to a Great prise by which many were Inriched and Comodities Grew plentiful; and yett in other Regards their benifitt turned to their hurt and this accession of strength to their weaknes for Now as their stockes Increased and the Increase vendable; and the feare of the Indians taken away there was Noe longer any holding of them together, But now they must of Necessitie Goe to their Great lotts; they Could Not other wise keep their Cattle; and haueing oxen Growne they must haue Land for plowing and tillage and Noe man now thought hee could liue except hee had Cattle and a Great deale of Ground to keep them, all striueing to Increase their stockes, by which meanes they were scattered all ouer the bay quickly and the towne in which they liued Compactly vntil Now was left very thine and in a short time almost desolate; and if this had bin all it had bin lesse tho to much But the Church must alsoe be deuided; and those that had liued soe longe together in Christian and Comfortable fellowship must Now p^rte and suffer Many deuissions; first those that liued on their lotts on the other syde of the bay (Called duxburray) they could not long bring their wiues and Children to the publick worshipp and Church meetings heer but with such burthen, as Growing to some Competent Number they sued to be dismissed and become a body of themselves; and soe they were dismissed about this time though very vnwillingly, and sometime after being vnited into one Intire body they

¹ "Signed 'your loving brother in law, Samuel Fuller'" (W. C. Ford, Bradford's History, ii. 117 note 2).

this was
the first
Church that
sprang out
of the bowels
of the Church
of Plymouth

procured Reuerend m^r Ralph Partrich to be their Pastour; and m^r William Leuerich alsoe was with them att the same time and preached the word of God amongst them but hee stayed Not longe amongst them ere hee Remoued to Sandwich and was teacher of the Church there a Considerable time; and after the death of holy m^r Partrich; It pleased God to send a preciouſe Gospell preacher amongst them Namely m^r John holmes; whoe liued and died alsoe with them and since his death the lord Raised vp another precious man: viz: m^r Ichabod Wiswell of whom ¹ there is Great hopes for a Continued succession of ² healp in the minnistry to that poor flock of Christ whom God soe Greatly honored as they were Neuer long without a Minnister of Christ to preach the Gospell vnto them;

But to touch this sad matter of the Churches p^rteing as hath bin said and to handle thinges together, that fell out afterward; To preuent any further scattering from this place of the Towne of Plymouth; and weakening of the same; It was thought best to Giue out some Good ffarmes to speciall p^rsons that would promise to liue att Plymouth; and likely to be healpfull to the Church or Comon wealth; and soe to tye the lands to Plymouth as farmes for the same; and there they might keep their Cattle and tillage by some servants and Retaine their dwellings heer; and soe some speciall Lands were Graunted; att a place vsually Called Greensharbour where noe allotments had bin in the former diuision a place very well Meddowed and fitt to keep and Rear Cattle Good store; But alsoe this Remedy proued worse then the disease for within few yeers those that had Gott footing there; Rent themselues away p^rtely by fforce and p^rtely by wearing the Rest with Importunitie and please of Nessesitie; soe as they must either suffer them to Goe or liue in Continuall opposition and Contension; and others still as they Conceiued them selues straightened or to want accommodation broak away vnder one pretence or other thinkeing their ³ owne Conceiued Nessesitie and the example of others a warrant sufficient for them; and this I feare wilbe the Ruine of New England att least of the Churches of God there ⁴ and prouoke the Lords displeasure against them;

¹ Here the words "of whom" are crossed out.

² Here "the" is crossed out.

³ Here "one" is crossed out.

⁴ Here the letters "wh" are crossed out.

This Church of Marshfeild (aboue Called Greensharbour) was began and afterwards Carried on by the healp and Assistance (vnder God) of m^r Edward Winslow; whoe att the first procured seuerall Welsh Gentlemen of Good note thither with m^r Blinman a Godly able Minnester ² whoe vnanimously Joyned together in holy fellowshipp or att least were in a likely way thervnto; but some desentions fell amongst them which Caused a p^rteing; Not longe after and soe the hopes of a Godly societie, as to them was; frusterated; Not long after those that went from Plymouth (with that Godly Gentleman m^r Willam Thomas) keeping vp a Comunion; It pleased the lord to send vnto them a faithfull and able preacher of the Gospell Named M^r Edward Buckley whoe was Chosen theire Pastour and; officiated in that place very profitably diuers yeers; but ³ att last hee left them and went to a place Called Concord in the ⁴ Gou^rment of the Massachusetts; and a Considera[ble] time after the lord Raised vp and sent another faithfull servant of his whoe proued able and well fitted for the worke of the Minnistry m^r Samuell Arnold by Name who Remaines amongst them for theire speciall Comfort in the worke of the minnistry [37]

the begining
of the Church
of Marshfeild
which was
the second
Church of
God that
Issued out
from the¹
Church of
Plymouth

About that ⁵ time or a little before that the Church of duxburrow became a distinct body from the Church ⁶ of Plymouth; the Towne of Scittuate began and seuerall of the Church of Plymouth Repaired thither, and seated them selues there; ⁷ att which time M^r Timothy hatherly Came out of England with his family; and ⁸ seated him self there alsoe; and seuerall others Godly ones of other places especially diuers out ⁹ of Kent Repaired thither; these all Joyned together and became a Comfortable and exemplary Church of God; and the Lord sent vnto them that precieuse servant of his, M^r John Laythorp whoe Came to them out of Great p^rsecution ¹⁰ and hee became theire Pastour; to which office hee was Indowed with a

I Can not
say that the
maine p^rte of
this Church
Came out of
the Church
of Plym: tho
a Considera-
ble p^rte of
them did;

¹ Something in here crossed out.

² Here "wee" or "woe" is crossed out.

³ Here "the" is crossed out.

⁴ Here the words "Bay of" are crossed out.

⁵ Apparently altered from "the."

⁶ Here "at" is interlined and crossed out.

⁷ Here "and" is crossed out.

⁸ Here "diuers" is crossed out.

⁹ The words "diuers out" are written over another word crossed out.

¹⁰ Here "hee" is crossed out.

Competent measure of Gifts and eminently Indowed with a Great Measure of brokenes of hart and humilltie of sperritt hee was much honored of the most as hee well deserued;¹ after some time a Considerable p^rte of the Church went from Scittuate to Barnstable and their pastour fornamed with them, where they liued diuers yeers in Gospell order and were very exemplary for the life of Grace and power of Godlynes; But which is sad to Relate soone after the death of their Godly Pastour fore Named; a sad desention fell amongst the Members of that Church soe as it Caused a Scisme and deuision amongst them, which Notwithstanding the Great Indeuours of diuers Churches both in² the Bay and att home, in our owne Colonie; by sending their Elders and Messengers whoe took great paines in the Controuersye to settle it, yett it Could not; for a longe time be healed and settled; vntill the lord Raised vp that worthy servant of his M^r Thomas Walley whom the lord sperited for that work and blessed his Indeuours soe therin as that soone after his Coming amongst them the Controuersyes were settled; and their Comunion Revnited, to their Generuall and Mutuall satisfaction and the Rejoyceing of the harts of the saints Round about them; and soe Remained vnto the death of the said m^r Walley whoe³ not longe after ended his life⁴ amongst them; and still they Remaine a Church of God in peace and loue vnto this day

But to Returne with a word or two Concerning those of the Church that were left att Scittuate whoe became a distinct body from the Rest viz: those that went to Bastable as afor said; and they had the healp of seuerall preachers to teach them as M^r Charlse Chauncye whoe was their Pastour a Considerable time; and seuerall others⁵ taught the word of God vnto them in the vacansye of Minnestr; and the last in office ouer them;⁶ before the writing heerof was M^r Nicholas Baker whoe was a faithfull able dispencer of the word, and Pastour of their⁷ soules, whoe after much dollorus paine, ended his life amongst them, and is Reaping the fruites of his labours and att

m^r Walley
was their
Pastour and
and serued
Christ in that
office amongst
them to the
end of his life

¹ Here "he" is crossed out.

² Here "sending" is crossed out.

³ Here "so" is crossed out.

⁴ Here "haue" is crossed out.

⁵ Here "But" is crossed out.

⁶ Here "att" is crossed out.

⁷ Here "sole" is crossed out.

the writing heerof, there is another preacher Come vnto them one m^r Lawson that exercyseth amongst them;

But to Returne againe vnto p^rticulars more Immediately Concerning the Church of Christ att Plymouth

This yeer M^r Ralph Smith layed downe his place of Minnestr^y ¹⁶³⁴ p^rtely by his owne willingnes as thinking it to heauy a burden and p^rtely att the desire and by the p^rswasion of others; and the Church sought out for some other haueing bine often disappointed in theire hopes and desires heertofore; and it pleased the Lord to send them an able and a Godly man; and of a Meek and humble sperite sound in the truth and euery way vnreprouable in his life and Conversation whoe after some time of tryall they Chose for theire Teacher, the fruites of whose labours they Injoyed many yeers with much Comfort in peace and agreement; m^r John done m^r Willam Paddy John Cooke deacons Afterwards John donham added

m^r John
Reyner

In the time when m^r Smith aboue named was Pastour the Church was disirous to procure another to be healpfull vnto him in the Minnestr^y, and for that end sent by M^r Edward Winslow, bound then for England to procure them an able man for that purpose, and was provided of one (as hee hoped) to Come ouer with him ¹ viz: one m^r Glouer a very able dispencer of the word; but hee ended his life in London before hee Came on board; and afterwards by providence m^r Winslow ² mett with M^r John Norton ³ whoe (it seemes) was then Intended to Come for New England and soe did in the same shipp m^r Winslow Came ouer in with whom hee ⁴ had treaty Concerning our Case; hee Came into the harbour of Plymouth and there Ariued; ⁵ it being the setting in towards winter; hee stayed vntill the March follow[ing] and ⁶ then went into the Bay and Returned noe more but entertained an Invitation to Ipswich and ⁷ after the death of M^r Cotton hee Came to Boston and was teacher of the old Church vntill his death thus this poor Church was put by

¹ Here "but" is crossed out.

² The words "m^r Winslow" are written above "hee," crossed out.

³ Here "a" is crossed out.

⁴ Here "somway" is crossed out.

⁵ Here "and" is crossed out.

⁶ Here "he" is crossed out.

⁷ Here "afterwards" is crossed out.

theire hopes, and expectations Concerning these men and ¹ theire healps [38]

1633

After m^r Reyner had bin in place a Considerable time It was desired ² that m^r Charles Chauncey a Reuerend man should be Invited whoe being a very Godly and learned man they Intended vpon tryall to Choose him Pastour of the Church heer for the more Comfortable p^rformance of the minnistry with m^r John Reiner the Teacher of the same; But there fell out some difference about baptising hee holding it ought onely to be by dipping and puting the whole body vnder water and that sprinkleing was vnlawfull the Church yeilded that Imercion or dipping was lawfull but in this Could Country not soe Convenient; But they Could not Nor durst not yeild to him in this that sprinkleing which all the Churches of Christ doe for the most p^rte att this day practice was vnlawfull and an humaine Invension as the same was prest; But they were willing to yield to him as farr as they Could and to the vtmost and were Contented to suffer him to practice as hee was p^rswaded; and when hee came to Minnester that ordinance hee might doe it to Any that did desire it in that way provided hee Could peacably suffer m^r Reyner and such as desired it to haue theires otherwise baptised by him by sprinkleing or powering on of water vpon them; soe as there might be Noe disturbance in the Church therabouts; But hee said hee could not yeild therunto upon which the Church procured some other minnesters to dispute the point with him publickly as m^r Ralph Partrich of duxburrow whoe did it sundry times; ably and sufficiently; as alsoe some other minnesters within this Gou^rment But hee was Not satisfied; soe the Church sent to many other Churches to Craue theire healp and advice in this matter; and with his will and Consent sent them his Arguments written vnder his owne hand; they sent them to the Church of Boston in the bay of Massachusetts to be Comunicated with other Churches there alsoe they sent the same to the Churches of Conecticott and New hauen with sundry others; and Received very able and sufficient Answares as they Conceiued from them and theire Learned Minnesters; who all Concluded against him; But himselfe was not satisfied therwith; theire Answares are to large heer to Relate; They Conceiued the Church

¹ This word is uncertain.

² Here the words "by the Chu" are crossed out.

had don what was meet in the thinge; soe m^r Chauncye haueing bin att Plym: the Most p^rte of three yeers; hee Remoued himself to Scittuate where hee for sometime Remained a Minnester to the Church there; alsoe about these times Now the Cattle and other thinges began Greatly to fall from their former Rates and p^rsons began to fall into more straights and Many being alreddy Gon from vs as is Noted before both to duxburrow Marshfeild, and other places and those of the Cheife sort as m^r Winslow Capt: Standish and M^r Alden and Many other[s] and still some dropping away dayly and some att this time, and many more vnsettled It did Greatly weaken the place and by Reason of the straightnes and barrenes of the place it sett the thoughts of Many vpon Remouall; &c.:

Now followeth that which was matter of Great sadness and mourning vnto this Church about the sixteenth of ¹ Aprill in this yeer died their Reuerend Elder ³ our dear and loueing friend m^r Willam Brewster ⁴ A man that had don and suffered much for the Lord Jesus and the Gospells sake, and had borne his p^rte in weale and woe with this poor p^rsecuted Church aboue thirty six yeers in England holland and in this wildernes and don the Lord and them faithfull seruice in his place and Calling; and Notwithstanding the many troubles and sorrowes hee pased throw the lord vpheld him to a Great age hee was neare fourscore yeers of age (if not all out) when hee died hee had this blessing aded by the lord to all the Rest to die in his bed in peace amongst the middest of his frinds whoe mourned and wept ouer him; and minnestered what healp and Comfort they Could vnto him and hee againe Recomforted ⁵ them ⁶ whiles hee Could; his sicknes was not longe, vntill the last day therof; hee did not wholly keep his bed; his speech Continued vntill som what more then half a day and then fayled him; and about 9 or 10: of the Clock that euening hee died without any pange; att all a few houres

1644 ²
April 16

¹ Here a word, apparently "Aprill," is crossed out.

² Altered from "1643," or perhaps "1643" altered from "1644." In his *New England's Memorial* (ed. 1669, pp. 116-117), Morton gives "about" April 18, 1643, as the date of Brewster's death, following Bradford's *History* (ii. 342). In the so-called "Brewster Book" is the entry: "William Brewster dyed at Plymouth in New England the 10th of Aprill 1744" (*Mayflower Descendant*, i. 7).

³ A word is here crossed out.

⁴ Here a word or letter is crossed out.

⁵ Here the letters "hi" are crossed out.

⁶ Here a word is crossed out.

before; hee drew his breath short; and some few minutes before his last hee drew his breath long as a man fallen into a sound sleep without any panges or Gasping, and soe sweetly departed this life vnto a better,

I would now demand of any what hee was the worse for any former sufferings what doe I say the worse Nay surely hee was the ¹ better and they now aded to his honor* ² [39]

It is ³

Christian and beloued Reader I humbly Craue Libertie heer to Interpose a few lines in this vacant place of this book Concerning ⁴ an other passage of Gods Prouidence as followeth; Not longe after the decease of our Reuerend Elder m^r William Brewster And the Reuerent M^r John Reiner left allone in the minnestrey The Church saw Cause to adde vnto him; ⁵ another Ruleing Elder and Pitched theire thoughts on M^r Thomas Cushman whoe was the son of that worthy servant of Christ M^r Robert Cushman of whom honorable mention is elswher made in this Book; the said M^r Cushman Jun^r: being by Generall Consent aproued elected and ordained to that worthy office and function for which hee was Competently fited and prepared by the Lord; and ⁶ Longe after his election Itt appeered that there was Great Nessetie of this gracious healp; for our Teacher leaueing vs as is alsoe elswhere mensioned; troubles Came on apace Not to mension againe the troubles which were occasioned by some of the Church of Barnstable which was blowne vp by John Cooke and others fore Named There arose a p^rverse sect Called Quakers whose tenetts and principles (if I may soe call them) are and may ezely be demonstrated to be hereticall and abominable; and then and att seuerall other times did strike att the very being (or att least the welbeing of the Church soe as) it was much Indangered But the Lord healped vs vnanimously to withstand these

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² The sketch of Brewster is continued on p. [40] of the text, or p. 78 of this volume.

³ Here the words "a manife" are crossed out, as should also have been the words "It is."

⁴ Here a word is crossed out.

⁵ Here "an" is crossed out.

⁶ Here "Not" is crossed out.

⁷ The reference is to p. [37] of the text, or pp. 72-73 of this volume.

Incendiarys of mischiffe; soe as by the mutuall and faithfull healp of this our worthy and beloued Elder with the Concurrance of seuerall other of the bretheren; Itt plased the Lord to ¹ vphold vs in our Integrity and in a Constant withstanding and opposing of those horred and damable tenetts; although wee were att this time as sheep without a minesteryall Shephard; and diuers of our ablest brethern fallen asleep in the Lord; to our Great losse and detriment; yee att such a time alsoe as this efficacy of delusion grew very preuelent to the p^uerting and turning aside of diuers outsyde professors from the wayes of God; and wee desire this specialty of Gods good prouidence and protextion; may Neuer be forgotten but that the Lord may haue all the praise and Glory thereof; for how ezely might these woulues in sheep clotheing haue Ruined this poor fflock of Christ, if the Lord had not Interposed with his Almighty power and Goodnes; Improeing this our Good Elder as a speciall Instrument in this worthy worke both by teackeing the will of God euery Lords; day for a Considerable time both plainly pouerfully and profittable and seconding the same by a blamles life and Conversation; blessed be his holy Name foreuer and euer; In a word this blessed servant of Christ is a good man (as was ² said of Barnabas) ³ & full of the holy Goast; expressed by both Commication ⁴ and Conversation; ⁵ and hath bin a good healp to this poor flock of Christ and being stricken in yeers and noe doubt Reddy prepared for the Coming of his Lord; stands Redy for his Gracious Recompence of Reward which is layed vp for all those that loue his appeering;

Good Reader lett not the Reading of this digression hinder the serious Reading of what followes in the followeing pages Respecting our other beloued Elder M^r Brewster fore Named; (or what else is inserted in this booke) the blame of the misplacing of this discours in this page I willingly owne take & ⁶ to be my ouersight and weaknes of Memory; I pray you take Notice of the starrs placed the one att the foot of the foregoeing page and the other to the head of the following page; and they will bring you into your way againe; and

¹ Here "hold" is crossed out.

² Here the words "and is" are interlined and crossed out.

³ Here the words "was & is full" are interlined and crossed out.

⁴ Perhaps "Commitation."

⁵ Here the words "being now stricken in yeers" are crossed out.

⁶ Here "take" is crossed out.

if ¹ euer this book be either Transcribed or printed I hope it wilbe Remembered to be inserted in it Right place; [40]

* It ² is a manifest token saith the Apostle 2 thesalonians 1: 5: 6: 7: of the Righteouse Judgment of God that wee may be Counted worthy of the kingdom of God for which yee alsoe suffer seing it is a Righteouse thing with God to Recompence tribulation to them that trouble you; and to you whoe are troubled Rest with vs when the Lord Jesus shalbe Reveiled from heauen with his mighty angells; and 1 peter 4th: 14 If you be Reproched for the Name of Christ happy are yee for the sperit of God and of Glory Resteth vpon you;

What tho hee wanted the Riches and pleasures of the world in his life and Pompious monuments att his funerall yett the memoriall of the Just shalbe Blessed when the Name of the wicked shall Rott; prou: 10: 7:

I should say somthing of his life; if to say a little were not worse then to be silent But I Can not wholly forbear; tho happily more may be don heerafter; after hee had Attained some learning viz: the knowlidge of the lattine toungue and some Insight in the Greeke; and spent some smale time att Cambridge; and then being first seasoned with the seeds of Grace; and vertue hee went to the Court and serued that Religious and Godly Gentleman m^r dauison diuers yeers when hee was Secretary of State whoe found him soe discreet and faithfull as hee trusted him aboue all other that were about him; and onely Employed him in matters of Greatest Trust and Secrecye; hee esteemed him Rather as a son then a servant and for his wisdom and Godlines (in private) hee would Converse with him more like a famillyar then a Master; hee Attended his master when hee was sent in Ambassage by the Queen; into the Low Countreyes (in the Earle of Lecesters time) as for other waighty affaires of State; soe to Receiue posession of the Cautionary townes;³ and in token and signe therof the kees of fflushing being deliuered to him

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² The sketch of Brewster is continued from p. [38] of the text, or p. 76 of this volume.

³ "The town of Flushing, the Castle of Ramakins in Zealand, and Brill in Holland, which were held by way of caution from the United Provinces, to insure their dependency upon England, the King resolved to render them up, as being meerly cautionary" (Rushworth, Historical Collections, 1659, i. 3). They were held from 1584 to 1616, when they were surrendered by James I.

in her Mat^{ies} Name; hee kept them some time and Comitted them to his servant; whoe kept them vnder his pillow on which hee slept the first night; and att his Returne the states honored him with a Gould Chaine and his Master Comitted it to him and Comaunded him to weare it as they¹ ariued in England as they Rode through the Country vntill they Came to the Court; hee afterwards Remained with him vntill his troubles when hee was put from his place about the death of the Queen of Scots and some Good time after doeing him many offices of service in the time of his troubles; afterwards hee went and liued in the Country in Good esteeme amongst his frinds and the Good Gentlmen of those p^rtes especially the Godly and Religious; hee² did much Good in the Country where hee liued in promoting and furthering Religion; and not onely by his practice and example and prouoking and Incurraging of others; but by procuring of Good preachers to the places therabouts and drawing on of others to Assist and healp to³ forward in such a worke; hee himself most Comonly deepest in the Charge; and somtims aboue his Abillitie, and in this State hee Continued many yeers doeing the best Good hee Could; and walking according to the light hee saw vntill the Lord Reveiled further vnto him; and in the end by the tirany of the Bishoppes against Godly preachers and people in silenceing the one and p^rsecuting the other; hee and many more of those times began to looke further into p^rticulars and to see into the vnlawfulnes of their Callings and the burden of many Antichristian Corruptions; which both hee and they Indeaured to Cast of; as they alsoe did; as in the beginning of this treatis is to be seen;⁴ after they were Joyned together into Comunion; hee was a speciall stay and healp to them they ordinarily mett att his house on the lords day (w^h was a manor of the Bishoppes) and with Great loue hee entertained them when they Came makeing prouision for them to⁵ his Great Charge and Continewed soe to doe whiles they Could stay in England; and when they were to Remoue on out of the Countrey hee was one of the first in all adventures and forwardest

¹ Here "Rid" is crossed out.

² Something is here crossed out.

³ Here the words "Assist and healp" are crossed out.

⁴ See p. 13, above.

⁵ Here "the" is crossed out.

p. 6: 7:¹

in any hee was the Cheife of those that were taken att Boston in lincolnesheire and suffered the Greatest lose; and of the seven that were kept longest in prison and after boun[d] [41] bound ouer to the Assises After hee Came into holland hee suffered much hardshipp after hee had spent the most of his meanes haueing a Great Charge and Many Children; and in Regard of his former breeding and Course not soe fitt for many Imployments as others were, especially such as were toilsome and laboriouse yett hee euer bore his Condition with much Cheerfulnes and Contentation towards the latter p^rte of those 12 yeers spent in holland his outward Condition was mended and hee liued well and plentifully for hee fell into a way by Reason hee had the lattin toungue to teach many students whoe had a desire to Learne the English toungue to teach them English and by his Meathod they quickley Attained it with great facillitie for hee drue Rules to learne it by after the lattine manor; and many Gentlemen both danes and Germaines Resorted to him as they had time from other studdies some of them being Great mens sons hee alsoe had meanes to sett vp printing (by the healp of some frinds and soe had Imployment enough and by Reason of many bookes which would not be allowed to be printed in England they might haue had more then they Could doe; But now Remoueing into this Country all these thinges were layed ² Aside againe and a new Course of liueing must be framed vnto In which hee was Noe way vnwilling to take his p^rte and to beare his burden with the Rest liueing Many times without bread or Corne many monthes together; haueing Many times Nothing but ffish and often wanting that alsoe; and drank Nothing but water for many yeers together yee vntill within fife or six yeers of his death; and yett hee liued (by the blessing of God) in health vntill very old age and besides that hee would labour with his hands in the feilds as long as hee was Able; yett when the Church had noe other Minnester hee taught twice euery sabbath and that both powerfully and profitably to the Great Contentment of the hearers and theire Comfortable edification yee many were brought to God by his Minnistry; hee did more in this behalfe in a yeer; then many that haue theire hundreds a yeer doe in all theire liues; for his p^rsonall Abillities hee was quallified aboue many; hee was

¹ The reference is to pp. [6-7] of the text, or pp. 16-17 of this volume.

² Here a word is crossed out.

wise and discreet and well spoken haueing a Graue deliberate vtterance; of a very Cheerfull speritt very sociable and pleasent amongst his frinds of an humble and modest mind of a¹ peacable disposition vndervallueing him selfe and his owne abillities and somtimes ouervalluing others Innoferiue and Innocent in his life and Conuersation which Gained him the loue of those without as well as those within; yett hee would tell them plainly of their faults and euills both publickly and privately But in such a manor as vsually was well taken from him; hee was tender harted and Compassionate of such as were in Missery but especially of such as had bin of Good estate and Ranke and were fallen into want & pouertie either for Goodnes and Religions sake or by the Injury and oppression of others; hee would say of all men these deserued to be most pittied; and none did more offend and displease him then such as would haughtely and proudly Carry and lift vp themselues being Risen from Nothing; and haueing little else in them but a few fine Clothes or a little Riches more then others; In Teaching hee was very stirring and moueing the affections alsoe very plaine and distinct in what hee taught; by which means hee became the More proffitable to the hearers hee had a singulare Good Gift in prayer both publick and private in Riping vp the hart and Consience be fore God in the humble Confession of sin and beging the mercyes of God in Christ for the p'don therof hee alwayes thought it² were better for Ministers to pray oftener and deuid their prayers then to be longe and tedious in the same except vpon sollemne and speciall occations as on dayes of humilliation and the like, his Reason was that the³ hart and speritts of all especially the weake Could hardly Continew and stand bent (as it were) for longe towards God as they ought to doe in that duty without fflaging and falling of; for the Gou'ment of the Church which was most proper to his office; hee was Carefull to preserue [42] preserue Good order in the same and to preserue puritie both in the doctrine and Comunion of the same and to supresse any error or Contention that might begin to Arise amongst them and accordly God Gaue good successe to his Indeauors heerin all his dayes and hee saw the fruite of his labours in

¹ Here "pleasant" is crossed out.

² Here a word, perhaps "more," is crossed out.

³ Here "hart" is crossed out.

that behalfe but I must break off haueing thus touched a few heads ¹ of thinges ²

I Can not but heer take occation not onely to mension but Greatly to Admire the marveilous prouidence of God that Notwithstanding ³ the many Changes and hardshippes that this poor Church and people went through; and the many enimies they had and difficulties they mett withall that soe many of them should liue to very old age Itt was not onely this Reuerend mans Condition but many more of them did the like; ⁴ some dieing about and before this time and many still liueing whoe attained to sixty yeers of age and to sixty fife diuers to 70 and aboue; and some Neare 80 as hee did It must needs be more then ordinary and aboue Naturall Reason that it should be for it is found in experience that Change of aire famine or vnwhol-some ffood much drinking of water sorrowes and troubles &c: all of them are enimies to health Causes of many deseases Consumers of Naturall vigour and the bodyes of men and shortenors of life; and yett of all these thinges they had a large p^rte and suffered deeply in the same they went from England to holland where they found both worse aire and diett when ⁵ they Came from thence Induring a longe Imprisonment as it were in the shippes att sea into New England and how it hath bin with them heer hath alreddy bin showen and what Crosses troubles feares wants and sorrowes they haue bin lyable vnto is easy to Conjecture soe as in some sort they may say with the Apostle 2 Cor: 11: 26 27 "They were in Journeyings often in p^rills of waters in p^rills of Robers in p^rill[s] of their owne Nation in p^rills amonge the heathen in p^rills in the wildernes in p^rills in the sea in p^rills amongst fflaee bretheren in wearines and painfulness in watching oftens in hunger and thirst in fasting oftens in Could and Nakednes."

What was it that vpheld them; It was Gods visitation that vpheld their speritt[s] Job the 10th and 12 Thou hast Giuen mee life and Grace and thy visitation hath preserued my speritt hee that vpheld the apostle vpheld them they were p^rsecuted but not forsaken Cast

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² This sketch of Brewster is printed in Young's *Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers*, pp. 461-469.

³ Altered from "Notwithstanding."

⁴ Here a word is crossed out.

⁵ Altered from "then."

downe but prished not 2 Cor 4: 9: as vnknowne and yett knowne as dying and behold wee liue; as Chasted and yett not killed

God it seemes would haue all men to behold and obserue such mersyes and workes of his Prouidence as these are towards his people that they in like Cases might b[e] Incouraged to depend vpon God in theire tryalls and alsoe to blesse his Name when "they see his Goodnes towards others; Man liues not by bread onely" dutrino: 8: 3 It is not by Good and dainty fare by peace and Rest and harts ease in Injoying the Contentments and Good thinges of this world onely that preserues health and prolonges life God in such examples would haue the world see and behold that hee Can doe it without them; and if the world will shutt theire eyes and take noe Notice therof; yett hee would haue his people to see and Consider daniell Could be better likeing with pulse then others were with the kinges dainties Jacob tho hee went from one Nation to another people and passed through famine feares and ¹ many afflictions yett hee liued vntill old age and died sweetly and Rested in the lord; as many others of Gods servants haue don and still shall doe; through Gods Goodnes Notwithstanding all the Mallice of theire enimies when the Branch of the wicked shalbe Cutt of before his day Job 15: 32: And the bloody and ² deseitfull men shall not liue half theirs dayes: Psa: 55: 23:

When the Church Came away out of holland they brought with them one deacon Mr Samuell ffuller whoe officiated in that office amongst them vntill his death hee was a Good man and full of the holy speritt; hee died before our Reuerend Elder before Named; And the Church saw Cause to Chose two others to that office: (viz:) Richard Masterson and Thomas Blossom two holy men; whoe were experienced saints; the said Richard Masterson haueing bin officious with p^rte of his estate for publick Good; and a man of Abillitie as a second steuen to defend the truth by sound argument Grounded on the scriptures of truth; and the other alsoe ³ Competently accomplished with abillities in that behalfe these two blessed saints liued not longe after they were Cosen but Changed this life for a better within a little time one after another; [43]

about the
year 1626
if I mistake
not

¹ Here "wants" is crossed out.

² Here "deceigh" is crossed out.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

1644

Many haueing left this place (as is before noted) by Reason of the straightnes and barrenes of the same and theire finding of better accomodations elswhere more suitable to theire ends and minds; and sundry others still vpon euery¹ occation desiring theire dismissons the Church began seriously to think whether it were not better Joyntly to Remoue to some other place then to be this weakened, and as it were Insensibly desolued many meetings and much Consultation was held therabouts; and diuers mens minds and oppinions some were still for staying together in this place (viz: wher Plymouth was then seated) alledging men might heer liue² if they would be Content with theire Condition and that it was not for want or Nessesitie soe much that they Remoued as to Inrich them selues, others were Resolute vpon Remouall and soe signified that heer they Could not stay but if the Church did not Remoue they must³ In soe much as many were swayed Rather then there should be a desolution to Condecend to a Remouall, if a fitt place Could be found that might more Conveniently and Comfortably Receiue the whole with such accession of others as might Come to them for theire better strength and subsistence and some such like Cautions and limitations; soe as with the aforsaid prouisoos a Greater p^rte Consented to a Remouall to a place Called Nawsett which had bin superffishally viewed; and the Good will of the purchassers (To whom it belonged) obtained with some addition therto from the Court, But now they began to see theire⁴ errorr that they had Giuen away alreddy the best and most Comodious places to others and Now wanted them; them selues for this place was about 50 miles from hence; and att an outside of the Country Remote from all societie; alsoe that it would proue soe straight as it would not be Competent to Receiue the body much less to be Capeable of Any addition or Increase soe as att least in a short time they should be worse there then they were Now heer these with sundry other like Considerations and Inconueniencies made them Chang theire Resolutions, but such as were before Resolued vpon Remouall tooke advantage of this Agreement and went on Notwithstanding Neither

¹ Here some letters are crossed out.

² Written above "find," crossed out.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

⁴ Here a word or letter is crossed out.

could the Rest hinder them they haueing made some begining; and thuse was this poor Church left like an Ancient Mother Grown old and forsaken of her Children (tho Not in theire affections) yett in Regard of theire bodily p^rsence and p^rsonall healpfulnes; her ancient members being most of them worn away by death; and these of latter times being like Children translated into other families; and shee like a widdow left onely to trust in God thuse shee that had made many Rich, became her selfe poor;

The Principall of the Members that then Remoued was that honorable Gentleman m^r Thomas Prence whoe went away with seuerall others of the Church who were very desirable and they became a body of themselues distinct from the Church of Plymouth, and settled att Nausett; by them Named Eastham; and in some succes of time being destitute of Minnestr^y¹ there being two in office of minestr^y att Barnstable, they obtained M^r John Mayo the Reuerend Teacher of that² Church; to Goe ouer to them, and hee became theire Teacher; afterwards; which is sad to Relate) some differences and Controuersies falling out amongst them, M^r Mayo left them and went to Boston; and was in office in the Minnestr^y in the second Church of [Boston wherof³ Reuerend M^r Mather is Teacher; but the said M^r Mayo Growing aged⁴ and vnable to Carry on his office hee Remoued into this Collonie; and liued neare Yarmouth and Not longe after, fell asleep in the lord; after these thinges m^r Barnabas Chauncye was sollisetted to Goe ouer to healp them but hee being a weake man and Insuffient for such worke, soon left them, and seuerall of the members of theire Church, went away to New Garnsey; Neuer the lesse it pleased God to Raise them vp another one M^r Samuella Treate, a Godly able man; whoe hath and doth Carry on the worke of the lord amongst them; soe as they Remaine an exemplary fflock of Christ att this day; [44]

the third
Church which
Came forth as
it were out
of our bowells

By the vnderworkeings of some enimies to the Churches in New England the following Comission was procured of his Ma^{tie} Charles the first Kinge of England &c: wherby the Reader may vnderstand, enimies haue bin att worke formerly to destroy that plante which

¹ Here a word, perhaps "ther," is crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Here "m^r" is crossed out.

⁴ Here "hee" is crossed out.

was planted by the Lords Right in this Wildernes What the Reason was that it was not put in execution I Can not learne M^r Bradford is altogether silent Concerning it; surely it was the lords work in a speciall manor; and it is and ought to be Marueilous in our eyes and wee ought to Render praises to his holy Name for the same; I haue transcribed it into this book that after ages may Improue it as an experiment of Gods Goodnes to this poor Church att Plymouth whoe with the other Churches In New England was In as Great danger to share¹ in drinking as deep of this bitter Cupp as any other; if the Lord had not preuented it; in a way to mee vnknowne;

Charles By the Grace of God Kinge of England Scotland ffance And Ireland defender of the ffaith &c:

To the most Reuerend father in Christ our welbeloued and faithfull counceller Willam by divine Prouidence Archbishop of Canterbury of all England primate metropolitant; Thomas Lord Couentrey keeper of our Great seale of England; The most Reuerent father in Christ our welbeloued and most faithfull Counceller Richard By divine Prouidence Archbishop of Yorge Primate and Metropolitan; our welbeloued and most ffaithfull Coussens and Councellers Richard Earle of Portland our high Treasurer of England; Henery Earle of Manchester keeper of our priue seal; Thomas Earle of Aroundell and Surrey Earle Marshall of England; Edward Earle of dorcett Chamberline of our deare Consort the Queen; and our beloued and faithfull Councellers ffancis Lord Cottington Counceller² and vnder Treasurer of our Exchequer; Sir Thomas Edmonds Knight Treasurer of our houshold Sir Henery Vane Knight Controuler of the same houshold Sir John Cooke Knight one of our priue Secretaryes and Sir ffancis Windebank Knight another of our priue Secretaryes Greeting;

Whereas very many of our Subjects and of our late fathers of beloued Memory our Sou^r Lord James Late King of England by means of Lycence Royall; not onely with desire of Inlarging the Teretoryes of our Empire but Cheiffly out of a Pious and Religious affection and desire of propagating the Gospell of our Lord Jesus Christ with Industry and expences haue Caused to be planted Larger Collonies of the English Nation in diuers p^rtes of the³ World altogether vnmanured and void of Inhabitants or Occupied of the barborus people that haue noe knowledge of diuine Worshipp; wee being willing to prouide a Remedy for the

¹ Here several words are crossed out. ² "Chancellor" is intended.

³ Here "English" is crossed out.

tranquillitie and quietnes of those people and being very Confident of your faith and wisdom Justice and prouident Sercomspection haue Constituted you the aforsaid Archbishop of Canterbury Lord Keeper of the [45] of the Great seale of England the Arch Bishop of York &:¹ And any fwe or more of you our Comissioners; and to you and any fwe or more of you, wee doe Giue and Comitt power for the Gou'ment and safety of the said Collonies drawne or which out of the English Nation into these p'tes heerafter shalbe drawne To make lawes Constitutions and ordinances p'taining either to the publick State of these Collonies or the private proffitt of them; and Concerning the Lands Goods debts and succession in those p'tes and how they shall demean them selues towards fforraigne Princes or their people or how they shall beare them selues towards vs and our subjects as well in any fforraige p'tes whatsoever, or on the seas in those p'tes or in their Returne sayleing home; or which may p'taine to the Clargey Gou'ment or to the Cure of soules amongst the people there liueing and exerceyseing trade In those p'tes; by designeing out Congreuent p'tions ariseing in tithes oblations and other things there according to your sound descretions in politicall and Ciuell Causes; And by haueing the advice of two or three bishoppes for the Cettleing makeing and ordering of the busines for the designing of Nessesary Ecclesiasticall and Clargye portions which you shall Cause to be Called and taken to you; and to make prouisions against the violation of those lawes Constitutions and ordinances by Imposing penalties and mulcts Imprisoment if there be Cause, and the qualitie of the offence doe Require it; by deprivation of member or life to be Inflicted, with power alsoe; (our Assent being had) to Remoue and displace the Gou'nors or Rulers of those Collonies for Causes which to you shall seem law full; and others in their stead to Constitute; and to Require an account of their Rule & Gou'ment and whom you shall find Culpable; either by deprivation from their place or by Imposition of a mult vpon the Goods of them in those p'tes to be leuied; or Banishment from those prouinces in which they haue bin Gou'r: or otherwise to Casheir according to the quantitie of the offence and to Constitute Judges and Majestrates Polliticall and Ciuill for Ciuill Causes; and vnder the power and forme which to you fwe or more of you shall seeme expedient; and Judges & Majestrates and dignities to Causes ecclesiasticall; and vnder the power and forme which to you fwe or more of you with the Bishoppes: Vizgerents prouided by the bishopp of Canterbury for the time being shall seem expedient; and to ordain Courts Pretorian and tribuniall as

¹ The ampersand is perhaps crossed out.

well Ecclesiasticall as Ciuill; [46]¹ as Ciuill, of Judgments to determine of the forme and manor of proceeding in the same and of appealling from them in matters and Causes as well Criminall as Ciuill p^rsonall Reall and mixed; and to theire seates of Justice what may be equall and well ordered; and what Crimes faults or excesses of Contracts or Injuries ought to belonge to the Ecclesiasticall Court; and what to the Ciuill Court and seat of of Justice,

Prouided Neuertheles that the lawes ordinances and Constitutions of this kind shall not be putt in execution before our Assent be had ther-vnto in writing vnder our signett signed att least and this Assent being had and the same publickly proclaimed in the prouinces in which they are to be executed; Wee will and Comand that those lawes ordinances and Constitutions more fully to obtaine strength and be obserued and shalbe Inviolable of all men whom they shall Concerne;

Notwithstanding it shalbe for you or any fwe or more of you as afore said² altho those Lawes & Constitutions shalbe proclaimed³ with our Royall order to Change Revoak and abrogate them and other New ones in forme aforesaid from time to time frame and make as aforesaid and to New euills arising or New dangers to apply New Remedies, as is fiting soe often as to you it shall seeme expedient; furthermore you shall vnderstand that wee haue Constituted you and euery fwe or more or you the aforesaid Arch Bishop of Canterbury Thomas Lord Couentry keeper of the Great seale of England Richard Bishop of Yorke Richard Earle of Portland Henery Earle of Manchester Thomas Earle of Arundell & Surry Edward earle of dorcett, ffancis Lord Cottington Sir Thomas Edwards Knight Sir henery Vane Knight Sir ffancis Windebank Knight our Comissioners to heare and determine according to your sound discretions all manor of Complaints either against those Collonies or theire Rulers or Gou^rs att the Instance of the p^rtyes greiued or att theire accusation brought Concerning Injuries from hence or from thence between them and theire members to be moued and to Call the p^rties before you; and to the p^rties or to theire procurators from hence or from thence being heard and full Complements of Justice to bee exhibited; Giueing vnto you or any fwe or more of you power that if you shall find any of the Collonies aforesaid or any of the Cheife Rulers vpon the Jurisdictions of others by vnjust posession or vsurpation, or one against another making⁴ Greiuanee or In Rebellion against vs or withdrawing from our

¹ Here "Ecclesiaticall" is crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Here the words "shalbe proclaimed" are crossed out.

⁴ Here a word is crossed out.

alligience or our Comaundements Not obeying, Consultation first with vs in that Case had; To Cause those Collonies or the Rulers of them for the Causes aforesaid; or for other Just Causes either to Returne to England or to Comaund them to other places designed; euen as according to your sound descretions it shall seeme to stand with equitie and Justice or Nessesitie; Morouer wee doe Giue vnto you or any fiue or more of you power and especiall Comaund ouer all the Charters Letters Pattents and Rescripts Royall of the Regions Prouinces Ilands or lands in fforraign p'tes Graunted for Raiseing Collonies to Cause them to be brought before you and the same being Receiued if any thinge; Surrptitious or vnduely haue bine obtained or that by the same priuiledges Liberties and prerogatiues hurtfull to vs or to our Crowne or to fforraigne Princes haue bine prejudicially suffered or Graunted; The same being better Made knowne vnto you fiue or more of you; To Comaund them according to the Lawes and Customes of England to be Revoked; and to doe such other thinges which to the proffitt and safe Gard of the aforesaid Collonies; and of our subjects Resedent in the same shalbe Nessesarie, And ther fore wee doe Comaund you that about the p'mises att dayes and times which for these thinges you shall Make prouision That you be dilligent in Attendance as it becometh you Giueing in precept alsoe [47] Alsoe and fermly Injoyning wee doe Giue Comaund to all and singular Cheiff Rulers of Prouinces¹ into which the Collonies aforesaid haue bine drawne and Concerning the Collonies them selues and Concerning others that haue bin Interested therein that they Giue attendance vpon you; and be observant and obeident vnto your warrants in those affaires as often as and euen as in our Name they shalbe Required att their p'rill; In Testimony wherof wee haue Caused these our letters be made Pattent; Witnes our seale Att Westminster the 28th day of Aprill Ann^o Do^m 1634

By writt from the privy seale;

WILLIS

In Anno 1635 M^r Edward Winslow went for England; and being occationed to Answare som Complaints made against the Country att the Councell bord more Cheifley Concerning their Naighbors in the Bay then themselues heer the which hee did to Good effect and further procecuting such things² as might tend to the Good of the whole as well them selues as others, about wronges and Incroachments that the french and other Strangers had made; hee preferred

¹ The word "Prouinces" is written above another word, crossed out.

² Here some words are crossed out.

his petition respecting the premises to the Right honorable the Lords Comissioners for the Plantations in America; the Contents whereof I willingly omitt heerwith to Insert as being not soe suitable to our present purpose; but rather to take Notice of such p^rticulars as were occasioned thereby p^rtenent to our p^rsent worke

In order whervnto the Reader may take Notice that the Petition M^r Winslow prefered respecting the p^rmisses; was accepted with most of theire lordshippes and hee was heard Sundry times by them; and appointed further to attend¹ for an Answere from them especially haueing vpon Conference with them; Proposed a way how the p^rticulars hee petitioned for, might be effected without any Charge or trouble to the State &c

But this Crossed both Sir fardinandoe Gorges and Capt. Masons and the Archbishopp of Canterberrys ends by them aimed att:² for Sir fardinandoe Gorges by the Archbishoppes fauor, was to haue bin sent ouer Generall Gou^r into the Country and to haue had meanes from the State for that end and was now vpon dispatch and Conclusion of the busines; and the Archbishoppes Purpose by this means and some hee should Imploy for that Purpose to be furnished with ePiscopall power to disturbe the peace of the Churches heer in New England, and to ouerthrow theire proceedings and further Grouth which was the thinge hee Aimed att; But it soe fell out by Gods Prouidence, That altho hee in the end Crosed this Petition from taking any further effect in this Kind; yett by this as a Cheiffe Meanes the plott and whole busines &c Sir fardinandoe fell to the Ground and Came to Nothing; when M^r Winslow should have had his suite Graunted (as Indeed upon the Point it was) and should have bine Confeirmed the Archbisshop put a stopp vpon it; and m^r Winslow thinking to Gett it freed went to the board againe But the Bishop Sir fardinandoe and Capt. Mason had as it seems procured (Morton of whom mensioned is Made before, and his Abusiue Carriage) To Complaine To whose Complaints M^r Winslow Made answere. to the Good Satisfaccion of the Auditors: viz Lords foremensioned whoe Checked the said Morton and rebuked him sharply; and alsoe³ blamed Sir fardinandoe Gorges and Mason for Countenanceing

¹ Here "further" is crossed out.

² The words "aimed att" are written above another word, crossed out.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

him; But the bishop had a further end and vse of his Presence for
 hee Now began to question M^r Winslow of Many things¹ as of
 Teaching in the Church Publickely of which Morton Acused and
 Gave evidence that hee had seen and heard him to doe it;²

of this
 Morton called
 Thomas
 Morton
 see more in
 New England's
 Memoriall

To which M^r Winslow Answered That sometime wanting a min-
 nester hee did³ exercise his Gift to healp the edification of his
 bretheren when they wanted better meanes [48] which was not
 offens,

Then about Marriage which hee alsoe Confessed that haueing
 bine Called to place of Majestracy hee had sometimes married some,
 and further told thire Lordshipps, that Marriage was a Ciuill ordi-
 nance And hee found noe wher in the word of God, that it was tyed to
 minnistry, againe they were Nessesitated soe to doe; haueing for a
 longe time together att first noe minnester; besides; it was noe new
 thinge for hee had bin soe married himsele in holland, by the Majes-
 trate in theire Statehouse but in the end to be short, for these and
 such like thinges the Bishope by vehement Importunitie procured
 theire Lordshipps Consent to his Comittment; soe hee was Comit-
 ted to the f fleet and lay there 17 weekes (or thereabouts) before hee
 Could Gett a Releasment and this is the end of this Petition and this
 busines; onely the other designe was alsoe frusterated heerby with
 other things Concurring which was noe small blessinge to the Churches
 and people of God in New England,

In Ann^o: 1637

There arived one Samull Gorton att Boston and Came to Plym-
 outh and vpon his first Comeing thether gaue hopes that hee would
 have proued a vsefull Instrument but soon after discovered himselfe
 to be a proud and pestilent seducer and deeply leauened with Blas-
 pemeous and familisticall opinions, and obserueing that some of
 his speritt were alreddy in the Country hee takes his oppertunity to
 sow some such seed att Plymouth wherby some were seduced in
 special one John Weekes and his wife whoe in some short time be-
 came very Atheists⁴ and were Cast out of the Church for theire
 abominable opinions; by which said damnable opinions seurall young

Concerning
 Gorton
 see New
 England's
 Memoriall
 folio 108
 142/3.

¹ Written above a word crossed out.

² Here the words "to which m^r" are crossed out.

³ Here "exercise" is crossed out.

⁴ Here a word is crossed out.

folkes¹ belonging to the Church had like to have been Carried asside into the pathes of darknes, from Plymouth hee went to Rhod Island & his accomplices some of them, with him whoe were some of them Cast out for the said oppinions; wherof the Reader may haue a full Intelligence, as in the margeant you are directed

In some time (as I take it) after the aboue Named busines about Gorton; by Reason or occation of the before mensioned deuision and decention of the Church of Barnstable² one of the Church of Plymouth whoe was formerly a deacon therof; fell into the error of Anabaptistry⁴ and falling in with some of those that Carried on that Scismaticall deuision; att length was Called in qvestion by the Church; and Continewing in his obstanacye and sequestration from the Church Comunion att times of sollemne worshipp was alsoe Cast out of the Church and soe Remaineth vntill this day;

This John Cooke although a Shallow man became a Cause of trouble and decension in our Church and Gaue Just occation of their Casting of him out; soe that Sollomon words proued true in him that one Sinner destroyeth much Good⁵

Not very longe after this, one Samuella hickes a member of the Church⁶ began to be vnsetled about seuerall of the ordinances of Jesus Christ; and qvestioned seuerall of them about baptising of Infants singing of Psalmes and seurall other p'ticulars; which occasioned the Calling of the Church together; and being destitute of any in Minnisteriall office they⁷ were Nessesitated to appoint seuerall of the ableest of the⁸ bretheren to Cleare vp the truth against the said qveryes; which Implied opposition to the truth, and although as in the prouerbe it is ezier for a Child yea a foole to Cast Stones into a well then for a wise man to Gett them out;⁹ In which Respect it had ben better to haue qvelled and stiffl'd such qvestions Rather;

¹ The words "young folkes" are underscored.

² The words "Church of Barnstable" are perhaps underscored.

³ The reference is to p. [37] of the text, or pp. 72-73 of this volume.

⁴ Here a word, perhaps "and," is crossed out.

⁵ This sentence is written in the margin.

⁶ The words "a member of the Church" are written above a word, crossed out.

⁷ Here "Church" is crossed out.

⁸ Here a word or letter is crossed out.

⁹ Here a word is crossed out.

then to haue disputed them; ¹ It being a Maxeme amonge logitians, that hee that denyes (and by like Reason) qvestions his principles is not worthy to be Reasoned with all, (as ² this unsettled man did) yett this occationed some good, for hereby the ³ orthodox were put upon more strict enquiry ⁴ into such grounds as the Lord in his holy word afords vs, for defence of his Sacred truthes and holy appointments, which I hope became proffitable in Rooting and Grounding them therin and although Notwithstanding there may appeer some weaknes in those answares that were made; yett the Lord was pleased to blesse them for the silencing of such Cauills as did ⁵ about those times arise from him and others; and to a more firmer establishment of ⁶ many I hope in the present truth, and hoping that some future Benifitt may Redound vnto surviueing Sainsts; if Noe otherwise yett that by the weaknes which Abler Christians may deserue in the p^rusall of those Answares they may be prouoked to Contribute theire healp as oppertunitie may present to more full and satisfactory Answares and therfore as followeth [49] haueing lately Received a Paper from our brother Samuells hickes Contain- ing severall qveryes to the Number of ⁷ 14 in which hee Requreth a p^rticulare text of Scripture by vs to be produced for our practice wee haue Indeaured through the healp and Assistance of God, to Give our Grounds taken out of the Scriptures of truth Respecting the thinges by him mensioned as followeth

1 Your first Concerning Aposteles if you meane by Apostles such Apostles as the 12 Apostles of the lambe wee affirme that there is Noe Ground to expect any such for these Reasons following

1 Because those apostles of Christ were Called Imediately by the Lord Jesus and the name Given by him as appeers Luke the Sixt: 13; which by the way take Notice that it is presumption for any to assume that title; or for any to Call any soe but such as Christ hath soe Named; That such were Imediately Called will appeer by these Scriptures following 1 Gall: 1 mat: 10th: 2: mark 3:14:

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here some words are interlined and crossed out.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

⁴ Here "after" is crossed out.

⁵ Here two words are interlined and crossed out.

⁶ Here a word is crossed out.

⁷ Here "eighteen" is crossed out.

2 Reason taken from their worke which was as Respecting other p^rticulars soe to beare witnes to the Resurrection of Christ Actes 1: 22: as Christ appointed them actes 1: 8: and yee shalbe witnesses vnto mee both in Iurusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and vnto the vtmost p^rtes of the earth; which agreeth with Actes 10: 39 and 40 41: 42; him God Raised vp the third day; and shewed him openly not to all the people but vnto witnesses Chosen before of God euen to vs whoe did eate and drinke with him after hee arose &c compare heer-with 1 Cor: 9: 1: and 15: 18:

3 Reason because they were Infallibly Assisted in declaring the mind of Christ soe as they Could not ere; and whatsoeuer they wrote or spake in the said p^rticulars were the Comaundements of the Lord Jesus Mathew 28: 20 1 Cor 11: 23 and 14 Chap: 37 and whoseuer shall bringe any other Godpell hee shall Acursed Galla: 1: 8: God alsoe bearing them wittnesses both with signes and wonders and Gifts of the holy speritt heb: 2: 4: And as Concerning the 4th to the ephesians and the 12 &c though wee say that the Apostles are seased in their p^rsons yett not in their doctrines; To be short wee Conceau of ¹ That text thus that all the ² Minnestryes are fruites of Christs assention; and doe still Continew for the p^rfecting of the saints Pastours and Teachers being p^rte of that Minnestrty in the Church hath and doth still Injoy all the minnestryes Christ hath appointed for it which suiteth with ³ Jude the 1 the faith once delivered to the saints and Jude 17: the p^rmises duely Considered there is Noe Nessesitie to expect any such ⁴ for the foundation of the Christian Church is laid alreddy by the m^r Builders 1 Cor: 3: 10: 11: heb: 6: 1:

Qu^r 2 What forme of ⁵ Couenant the people of God made when they owned the truth in the primetiue times

Answer That the Churches in the New Testament were Constitued by Couenant appeers in that the p^rmitiue Christians walked in holy fellowship together with Admonition and exclusion as occa-

¹ Here "those" is crossed out.

² Here "minnestreyes" is crossed out.

³ Here "it" is crossed out.

⁴ Here something is crossed out.

⁵ Here "Gods" is crossed out.

tion Required which Nessesarily presuposeth a Couenant according to actes the ¹ second ² 42: Acts the 9:26:

2 how can two walk together except they be Agreed Amos 3:3:

3 The destination of Churches soe as the Church of Corenth was not the Church of ephesus and soe of the Rest; and the members of one Church were Not the Members of another Collo:4:12: Rom. 16:1: and vnto this agree that which wee haue Ps. 50:2: 2 Cron: 15:12:

Query 3 Whether ³ singing of Psalmes in a booke be a worshipping of God in speritt and truth seeing the Apostle saith singing in the speritt praying in the speritt 1 Cor:14:15

Answer Wee Answer that it is a Worshipping of God in speritt and truth Rightly to singe Psalmes: viz: Scripture Psalmes;

1 Because the Matter of them is Spirituall appointed to be sunge as being Indited by the speritt of God and Named Psalmes himes and spirituall songes Ephe 5:19 Collo:3:16: [50]

2 for the manor Respecting the Internall affection It is with Grace in our harts making mellodie to the Lord in our harts Ephe: 5:19: Collos: third 16:

3 It is spirituall worshipp because it is Comaunded of God 2 Cron:29:30:

4 Query if I may worshipp God in sperit & truth singing out a booke why may I Not worship God in praying out of a booke

Ans: 1 by the way take Notice that wee Conceiue it to be a Great Contempt Cast upon the Scriptures of Truth to parraleel singing of Psalmes which are a p^rte of the holy Scriptures Indited by the holy Speritt of God with Invented formes of prayers printed in bookes made by wee know not ⁴ whoe

2. The proportion of this your Consequence or Inference hold not; of praying and singing Respecting the externall action; for in prayer wee speake to God but in singing wee speake ⁵ to ⁶ ourselues and one another by Admonishing our selues and one another Collosi 3:16:

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Two or three words are crossed out before "whether."

⁴ Here a word is crossed out.

⁵ Here "by" is crossed out.

⁶ Here "to" is crossed out.

If to singe be to pray; then euery one that singeth prayeth which Can not be respecting the externall acte of one ¹ or the other; for if one should be asked whoe cometh from a Congregation in ² Sperituall exercise what are they about; if hee should Answare they are praying, when they are singing would hee ³ not be Judged by all to speake falsely; wee say respecting the externall acte onely; and soe by like Reason to say ⁴ they are singing when they are praying; which were not soe Rediculus if to singe were to pray as the objecters; Asertion seemeth to Infer;

3 The proportion holds not; in Respect of the externall actions of singing and praying because the Psalmes all of them are matter of Instruction; yee many of them ⁵ are not in the Least deliuered prayer wise as Psalms 78:49:45: and Many others;

5 qvery about Singing wherein a Scripture is Required to proue a mixed Multitude singing doe worship God in speritt and truth seeing that it is said that the prayers of the wicked are abomination to the Lord;

Answ: Wee say that that the Churches of Christ⁶ are Intire in their worshipp, and actes of Sperituall ⁷ worships may be p^rformed in A mixed Multitude Exod 15: 1: Comp with exodo 12: 38: and exodu: 14: last: 1 Cor: 14: 23: 24: 25; And wee know not that the p^rsence of any such as you Name doth or Can defile the worship of God more in singing than in saying Amen to the prayer of the faithfull; or any other p^rte of sperituall worship such as are prophane are noe more prohibited from p^rforming actes of worshipp, by that Scripture you alledge then to Give ouer their lawfull Callings because the plowing of the wicked is sin;

2 Wee find in the holy Scriptures an Insightment vnto all to singe praises to God as Psalmes 100:1: and 117, and wher God Insights wee see Noe Reason to prohibite; Besides wee doe not qvestian but that many of those that are. Not in Actuall Comunion in Church

¹ Here "and" is crossed out.

² Written above a word crossed out.

³ Written above a word crossed out.

⁴ Here a word is crossed out.

⁵ Here a word is crossed out.

⁶ Here a word is crossed out.

⁷ Here a word or two are crossed out.

order may and doe p^rforme many actes of sperituall worship, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ;

6 Query about the Churches power to ordain their owne officers;

Ans^w: Wee Answare the Church hath eqvall power to ordaine as well as to elect their owne officers election and ordination are Joined together acts 14:23: what the Apostles did it is plaine they did it not without the Churches but with them; the Church elected the Apostles might acte with them in election as the Church acted with them in ordination;

2 It is in the Churches power to elect their officers acts the sixt soe alsoe to ordaine being both enclused in that power Christ hath Giuen to his Church; otherwise election would be Rendered alto Gether fruitles and to noe purpose because election is presedent to ordination and ¹ ordination noe other than a designation of the p^rson elected to his office;

7 To the Next about ordination whether ordination be a bare Impty thing yee or Noe; wee Cannot but Maruell that our brother should make such a qvery; are any of Christs Institutions empty thinges ordination is noe ² empty thinge; yett laying on of hands in this Case noe such thinge that Confers ³ Gifts to places and Callings vnto any; further then such an one being Rightly according to God Called and ordained in such a way as Christ hath appointed by prayer &c there may be expected a blessing of God vpon his owne appointment; [51]

2 wee answare that Gifts and qvallifacations suitable to minnestr ⁴ of the Gospell befitting their worke Can not be Confered by ordination because they are to be known before election ⁵ to haue Gifts fitt for it and ordination; 1 tim: 3: 1 titus 7:

Qvry 7 A Scripture to prove the baptising of Infants

Ans^w: Wee Answare that Infants of beleieuing parents are to be baptised is Cleared by the Tenure of Gods Couenant made with the faithfull and their seed as appeers Genesis 17th; which Couenant made with Abraham was the Couenant of Grace and of the

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here "emty" is crossed out.

³ Here "Grace" is crossed out.

⁴ This word has apparently been altered.

⁵ Here some words are crossed out.

Gospell Gall:3:17¹ and that this was the Couenant of the Gospell Appeers plainly because the seale of it: viz: Cercomission is expressly Called the seale of the Righteousnes that is by faith Rom: 4:11 the promise is; that beleiuers; Now as the Infants of the Jewes were Capable subjects of Cercomission in theire Infancy soe the Infants of beleiuieing parents are fitt subjects for baptisme; which is the seale of the Righteousnes which is by faith the promise is to beleiuers and theire seed and to as many as the lord our God shall Call Actes the 2:39 Esai 65:23: 1 Cor:7th:14: else were youer Children vnclean but now are they holy Rom: 11:16; if the Root be holy soe are the brances besides seuerall other places that proue² the Churches both of Jewes and Gentiles^{*3} ephe: 2:16: John 10:16: ⁴ wee demaund of those that Scruple this truth; lett them if they ⁵ Can Giue vs one hint out of the Scriptures of Gods excluding such out of his Couenant as were once Included within the same; and if not how then dare any vndertake to doe it without Comission from God; Wee are Not wholly Ignorant that much hath bin spoken and written by many about this p'ticular which Giues vs to thinke that it is not so much want of Light as of Loue to the truth that occations this query att this time;

8 Query A text to proue an officer of a p'ticular Congration to adminnester the seale of Baptisme

Answ you might as well haue taken the other seale; for the Reason stands as well to Scruple⁶ the one as the other;

That a minnester of a Congregation is to Adminnester the seales of the Couenant p'ticularly Baptismee; wee proue because it is to be dispenced by the minnistry that Christ hath Giuen to his Church mat:28: last Apostles and evangelists were Christs minnistry and they baptise I Cor 1:14 :: 16: Acts 8th thirteenth and : 38: p'ticular officers as Pastours and Teachers are Christs minnistry and therefore it is theire worke to baptise; Christs minnesters are to Baptise but Pastours and Teachers are Christs Minnisters Ephe 4:11 Therefore Pastours & Teachers are to Baptise

¹ Written above a figure crossed out.

² Here some words are interlined and crossed out.

³ Here some words are interlined and crossed out.

⁴ Here some words are interlined and crossed out.

⁵ Here a word or letter is crossed out.

⁶ Here "for" is crossed out.

* to be one
body &
p'takers of
like Gospell
privilidges

2 it is the worke of Pastours and Teachers Minnesterially to feed the fflock is proued acts 20: 28: now feeding Consisteth Not onely in preaching the word though principally but alsoe in Adminnestring the seales of the Couenant of Grace and otherwise alsoe; it being a Reall feeding to the Soule to haue the seale of Baptisme applyed to it in such a way and by such a minnistry as Christ appoints: viz: Pastours and Teachers;

9 Query; A Scripture for a man to take a text of Scripture for Carrying on the whole exercise;

Ans^w Wee propose that text of our Sauour his takeing the book of the Prophett Eaiah luke 4: 17: 18 Acts, and actes the second and actes 13: from the 16 &c 20th & acts the 7th if the question hath Reference to such as exercise Not by office; wee answare for our p^tes that wee Can scarce Gett one to healp att a time and it is Not likely; that two or three wilbe ordinarily prouided; but to Remove the scruple Respecting ourselues wholly out of doubt; if such as Scruple the Carrying on of an exercise by one if they be pleased to speak to edification on such a time as one or more may speak after; wee suppose, that none wilbe Greiued att it; [52]

Quri 10 Wher wee haue a Scripture to proue that the world should be compelled to maintaine the Churches officers

Ans. It is not knowne to be the Churches Judgment; and wee are sure it Neuer was theire Practice; and for vs to meddle in that which doth not Concerne vs wee should heerby declare our selues to be busy in that which is Needles as from vs;

Query 11 A Scriptures that the officer of the Church should Stand vp to pronounce a blessing and whether Christ be Not the onely blesser of his People;

Wee Answare by destinckson

1 That Christ is the onely efficient and absolute blesser of his People wee willingly owne and that for that end hee was sent Actes the 3: 26 being a p^te of the office of Christ his preisthood to blesse vs by turning euery one of vs from our Iniquities;

2 Wee owne a prophetically pronouneation of blessing Gen 27 Gen: 49 dutrinomy 33: which wee Affeirme is seased and ended; with such times as in which such prophetts and Patriarkes liued as declared such blessings by way of prediction;

3 More p^rticularly to the Case in hand wee affeirme there is a

declaratiue blessing Implying and Carrying alonge with it a prayer for a blessing of God vpon the people according to 2 Cor:13:14: Compared with heb:13:20: in which places with many others the Apostles declare wish vnto and pray for a blessing to the saints vnto whom they wrote their Sacred Epistales; and vsually Closed them with the same exemplary to the Minnistry of the Gospell for the Closing and finishing; of their Religious exercises;

4 But more p'ticularly and expresse to the Case is that famous Presedent wee haue Numbers the sixt 24:25:26: where by diuine Institution; the Preists the sones of Aron Called the Minnisters of the Lord Joell the second; and 17th are Comaunded to blesse in a treble declaration therof; wherein is couched a deuine Mistery of the holy trenity suitable to what wee haue 2 Cor:13: last: the Grace of our Lord¹ Jesus Christ the loue of God and the Comunion of the holy speritt; further lett the fornamed Numb:6:23: be seriously Considered in the expressions on this wise yee shall blesse the Children of Israell saying vnto them; which vndoubtedly must be att their holy Conuocations; when Congregated in the Name of the Lord; for Religious worship for how Could the Preists blesse them and say vnto them; vnlesse Congregated² together and what time more Convenient then att the Periode of Religious exercises; when God hath mett with his people and blessed them there for the minnisters of Christ to³ pronounce⁴ them blessed and they shalbe blessed;

But if objection should be made that this was Cerimoniall and tipified Christ the high Preist of his Church whoe blessed his People as aforsaid wee Answere that although the Preists of old were types of Christ and in sundry of their adminestrations Tipicall yett they were Really the minnisters of God in their times as hath bin proued; alsoe in diuers p'ticulares exemplary in their practices to the minnisters of the Gospell; there being⁵ Many thinges in Comon to be practised as Comon to them both; in Adminestrations⁶ as minnisters of God as Prayer preaching of the word and soe alsoe that manor of blessing of which wee haue bin treating

¹ Apparently altered from "Lordshippe."

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Here a word, apparently "promise," is crossed out.

⁴ Written above a word crossed out.

⁵ Here "in" is crossed out.

⁶ Here "and" is crossed out.

Lastly incase the minnesters of Christ should be prohibited to pronounce and declare and pray for a blessing on the people of God in such sort; this were to straighten the times of the Gospell; and the fulnes of the blessings¹ therof; and to make them Inferior to the times of the law in this Respect; vnder which the blessings of the Gospell were vaild² vnder darke shaddowes; [53]

Query 12 A Scripture for any to sett vp a vissible Church and ordinances without a minnistry sent from God to fitt them and Call them to that worke;

Answer that none May soe doe is a truth in A true sence viz that none may sett vp a Church worship or ordinances vnlesse seing themselves fited prepared and Called by the doctrines of the Propetts and Apostles whoe were extreordinarily Inspired from on high and Comissionated to teach the saints whatsoeuer Christ the Lord has appointed them Matt 28 is a manifest truth and for any to practice otherwise then by direction of those³ Master Builders were high presumption; But if wee haue Moses and the prophetts Christ and his Apostles theire doctrines and directions to be our Guides in the premises which wee judge to a most sure way for vs to Attend; Rather then to expect men extreordinarily Inspired or any such as may or doe pretend to be Indowed with Apostollicall Gifts and Revelations being wee haue soe sure a word of prophesie to Guid vs in such work; whervnto if wee take heed wee shall vndoubtedly doe well; wee might add that for many ages the saints have not wanted diuers exelent Instruments of which many might be Named whoe vndoubtedly were Raised vp of God and; and directed by his word and speritt and haue bin precieuse Lights in Goeing before the saints in such worke although not pretending to and boasting of Apostollicall Gifts and Reuelations;

To the Question about the Sabbath as followeth

That wee keep it by Comaundement of men wee detest as that which is abominable and our soules hate; to keep the seauenth p'te of time wee owne that it is according to Gods Comaund; and whether you Call it the sabbath the first day of the weeke or the Lords day wee owne them as suitable tearmes according to Scripture

¹ Here the words "of the Gospell" are crossed out.

² Here "vnder" is crossed out.

³ Perhaps "these."

Respecting the time in qvestian; That the Lords day or first day of the weeke is a Rest to be observed and kept by the saints vnder the Gospell; by diuine Institution; wee shalbe able to proue by primitiue Pateren taken out of the New Testament as you desire And first for the varieuse denominations of the time which is threefold; Wee find in first of Cor: 16: 2: Called the first day of the weeke; and actes the 20th-7th: Called the Lords day 1 Reue 10th) Called a Sabbath Mat: 24: 20: in this Last Called a sabbath; which must Needs be the same with the Lords day and first day of the week the Churches meeting day and day of Rest and not the Jewes sabbath viz: the seauenth day; for the fflight heer foretold by Christ was Longe after the Gospell¹ ordinances were established and that this was spoken to Christians Not to Jewes (as Jewes) but to his desiples verse the third for hee taught them att that time² as Coming vnto him secretly; and it was a warning vnto them to be prepared before hand; and therefore to pray that their fflight might not be in the winter nor on the sabbath day; for they must expect to be put to fflight³ and otherwise euilly Intreated for the Name of Christ as verse the third: 4: 9: 25: and 26 with luke the 22: 12:

2 in that our Sauour saith pray yee makes it plaine that hee speakes of Christians

3 The time of his Sermon in which this warning and exhortation was Giuen: viz: it being Neare to his suffering att which time it is altogether vnlikely that he would prouide for the establishment of the Jewish Cerrimonyes * which ere longe were to be abollishment; it being one of the most waighty p'ticulars which Christ spake of which there were many that hee vttered a little before his suffering and therefore exhorts them to pray that their fflight might not be in the winter nor in the sabbath day as that which would be Most sad to be soe disturbed; when⁴ and att such time as appointed for their Religious exercyses they should be Constrained to ffly;

Now to proue this first day and our Lords day: viz:⁵ our Christian Sabbath to be off⁶ Gods Institution wee must first doe it by the

¹ Here the letters "ord" are crossed out.

² Altered from "times."

³ Here the words "and otherwise" are crossed out.

⁴ Perhaps "wher."

⁵ Here the words "To be allowed" are crossed out.

⁶ Apparently altered from "after."

Great workes of Christ Concerning Mans Redemption; for as God when hee had finished his Great [54] work of Creation in six dayes Rested the seauenth and sanctified it as to be a Sabbath; soe in Allusion heervnto it is that the auther to the heb:4:10: saith that Christ Rested from his worke: viz: of our Redempson as God did from his;

2 That day Christ by his Resurrection from the dead is declared to be the head of his Church yee the Cheiffe stone of the Corner; salm 118:22:23: It being the day the lord hath made verse 24:

3 The frequent Assemblies of the saints for Religiouse exercises on the ¹ first day of the week as actes 20th:7: 1 Cor: 12:2: Reuel: 1:10: Pathmosse did noe more ² denote a p^rticulare and knowne Iland and John a Certain and knowne p^rson then did the lords day a Certaine and Knowne day especially vnto Christians to whom the Apostle wrote; for if it had the Name of the day from the vision then appeering to him and of the speciall manifestation of Gods mind and of Gods Coming in vnto him on that behalf; how should the seauen Churches of Asia Clearly distinguish of the time according to Johns Intension by telling them hee was Rauished in speritt on the lords day these p^rticulares Considered wee Conclude that the Lords day soe called Rev: 1:12 is the same with the first day of the week being the day the Lord hath made and appointed to be obserued by vs Christians;

This day wee proue was kept and obserued by the Apostles of Christ and Employed in a speciall p^rte of their Masters busines; Now whatsoeur they Receiued by way of Comision from) the Lord they haue deliuered vnto vs and wee bound to obserue but the Apostle Paule 1 Cor:16:2 by Apostollically Comaund Injoynes the Contribution for the poor saints in Siria euen as hee apointed in other Churches to be on that day therfore &c:

If this p^rticular Respecting Contribution must be obserued by Apostollicall Comaund much more the time for that and all other publicke and Religious exerises ought to be by Apostollicall Comaund obserued as ³ is appointed in the fore quoted ⁴ place; 1 Cor: 16:2:

¹ Here "Lords" is crossed out.

² Here a word, perhaps "denote," is crossed out.

³ Here a word, perhaps "is," is crossed out.

⁴ Written above "goeing," crossed out.

Wee proue this day to be obserued Sabbattically by Apostolicall Comaund¹ because that it was Neuer lawfull nor in the power of any Church or people to sett apart a day to bind all² mens Consiences to the obseruation therof which; if not Graunted Respecting the Lords day wee ezely see what will follow if that day be att our Christian libertie as some say then it will follow that it being att the libertie of a Church to make Choics of the first day for their sollome Meetinges; and if any other societie will mak Choise of the fift sixt or seauenth: which they may by like libertie that the former made Choise of the first;

And hence it will follow that a societie acteing to this³ supposed libertie, that which is euery ones libertie the Generall Can not take from the p'ticulars, Therefore if one two fwe or more think it Not Good to keep such a day their Consiences are not bound they may vse another day if it suits beter with them and their occations and soe it is ezely discerned That if wee had Not a time by Gods Appointment that this pretended libertie of a day to be Arbetrary att Mens Choise for Religious worshipp will Neuer satisfye a Consien-sious Christian that is Grounded on the Scriptures of truth;

But besides this vnauoidable Confusion of Leaueing such time Arbetrary to the will of man to bind Consience to the obseruance of it soe as the seauenth day of old and the first day of the weeke Now is more then God allowed to any people In keeping of the first day or any other by vertue of our owne appointment Meerly is superstition and Papisticall and Parralell: with the feast that Jeraboam in the eight month and the fifteenth day therof kept of which wee Read 1 kinges 12:32:33: which was lik that which was obserued in Judah which hee is Charged to hau deuised it of his owne hart; thus men may keep a day which is Really the Lords day but if they obserue it as Arbetrary att their owne⁴ wills it may be but a deuise of their owne harts; [55]

Wee Read of dayes in Scripture appointed to be obserued by the Comaund; of God; And wee Read of dayes on some accompt wee ought to keep by Christian libertie as wee haue oppertunitie such a

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here "menss" is crossed out.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

⁴ Here something is crossed out.

Good day Esra 9: 17: 18: 19 soe answerable amongst Christians now when God Calles to sollem humilliation and thanksgiueing the same may and ought to be kept: euen such dayes when Called therto¹ yett those are not holy dayes It is popery for men to putt soe much vpon the day Butt that time wee Call ² the Lords day or sabbath it is a holy day sett apart by God and that makes it holy Now to Cleare vp our meaning heerin take Notice of these three p^rticulars

This will shew a vast difference betwixt obserueing a day by Gods Comaund and such as are agreed on by Christians either in whole or p^rte;

¹ deputation
² dedication
³ sanetification

first wee may depute such a time or such a place to spend an houre or two to heare a Sermon and yett this time place or &c: is not made holy by it it is deputed but Not made holy Now a Creature is Not made holy meerly by being made vse of att an holy exerceyse; as suppose I Goe to Read the holy Scripture I make vse of a Candle to Read it by I doe not Make the Candle holy by it because I make vse of it; if the makeing vse of a Creature in a holy duty did make the Creature holy then it would follow Generally in all dutyes I make vse of the light and aire when I am Reading and speaking holy things in publick Assemblies I doe not make them holy soe I make vse of this houre to preach in though I make vse of in a holy duty I make it noe further holy then ³ a man doth his spectacles hee vseth to Read the Scriptures by; Now deputation is puting a part of such a time for such a worke; and thus farr Goe they whoe obserue a day by their libertie

2condly dedication that is when I Giue a thinge out of my owne proper for a Piouse vse that I can not make vse therof againe for an other end as when a man hath Giuen soe much of his estate to such or such pious vses hee hath devoted it to such an end and soe that hee Can not make vse of it (without sin) to another end; ⁴ wee doe not soe by setting a part a time for preaching soe as wee can not without sin make vse of it to another end; and soe if a people sett apart a time for humilliation; it may fall out that the time may be sett apart for thanksgiueing if Gods prouidence Change ⁵ and that without

¹ Altered from "there."

² Apparently altered from "Called."

³ Here "he" is crossed out.

⁴ Here some words are crossed out.

⁵ Perhaps "Charge."

sin and soe for preaching wee may alter the time from twelue to three;¹ and soe further if wee Attend noe² houre that day to heare a Sermon if occations Calls men³ otherwaies; but if wee haue dedicated or Giuen out of our owne power It Can not be Changed by vs; this is beyond the other yett Not sanctifying

Now Sanctification is when any Creature or time is soe sett apart for holy thinges as it must not be vsed in Any thinge but that which is holy; and though the same holy actions be don att⁴ another time they shall not be⁵ accompted soe holy as att this time This is proper sanctification; and the setting appart of any day thus⁶ that is such a day as God Giues mee to make vse of for my occations if I shall sett it apart for such a busines and put more holines in the actions then p^rformed then the same actions p^rformed att an other time I sanctify time to my selfe; but thus wee Can not doe without sin:

Now these two thinges are in our Lords day of Gods appointment [56] and Indeed in all thinges that are accompted holy by God

1 It is a sin to make vse of that any otherwise then God hath appointed it

2 The actions done then are more acceptable then if the same thinges had bin done att another time yee wee shall find it soe spoken Concerning the day of Attonment which was a day appointed of God if they had fasted vpon another day it was Not soe acceptable because that day was Gods appointment;⁷ By this you may see that wee put a vast difference between a day of Gods appointment and what man appoints; and soe for the Change of the day from the seauenth to the first Changable by the law Giuer whoe was Lord of the sabbath; The Christian primitiue patteren by Comaund from Christ and his holy Apostles the Master builders of his Church whom following in this and other p^rtes of our Christian profession wee shall haue wherwith to satisfy our Consiences being p^rswaded that as it is onely in the power of God and his son Christ to appoint

¹ Here some words are crossed out.

² Here "hour" is crossed out.

³ Here "away" is crossed out.

⁴ Here "any" is crossed out.

⁵ Here the words "Called holy" are crossed out.

⁶ Here some words are crossed out.

⁷ Here some words, perhaps "and what man appoints," are crossed out.

what day hee will to be obserued as a sabbath soe it is too much boldnes in any man to say either to Christ in Comaunding or to any Christian in practicing wherefore doest thou thus;

And soe I haue Issued Matters Relateing to these Queries and Answares; this poor vnsettled man fell yett further and further, and att last became a qvaker; and about the Indian warr time hee died.

I may not omitt to ¹ Insert somthing in this place before I draw towards a Conclusion Concerning that worthy servant of Jesus Christ m^r John ² Reyner somtimes Teacher of this Church haueing touched somthing Concerning him before

hee serued Christ in the office of Teacher about eighteen yeers being Assisted therin by m^r Tho: Cushman Elder in Great faithfulness and with much Industry being largely Indowed with Gifts suitable to soe worthy a worke; and might haue Continewed ³ much longer therin to the Glory of Christ and Comfort of the saints had not sin and Sathans mallice hindered The vnhappy difference that fell out in the Church of Barnstable had such an ill Influence into the Church of Plymouth as that it; Together with the vnsettlednes of the Church and Going away of diuers of this Church yee of the eminentest of them was a meanes of vnsettlement to this holy man of God and althoe much blame may bee Layed to the people about his Removall yett himselfe Can not be wholly excused But the breach was soe Great by the leauing of the Church as it is to be feared will neuer be made vp againe especially Considering the Insensible ffraun ⁴ att that time on those whoe were Concerned therin; both in Respect of sin that caused it, and in Respect of our losse of him which ought to haue bin more layed to hart then it ⁵ was; hee left Plymouth in the month of Nouember 1654: and went to Boston where hee Continewed that winter and Came the springe following in a way of visitt and would haue bin ezely p^swaded to Come againe if the people would haue Condecended to a proposition ⁶ made by him; But they then

¹ Here the letters "spea" are crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Here "therein" is crossed out.

⁴ This word is uncertain.

⁵ Here a word is crossed out.

⁶ Here some words are crossed out.

haueing aprise had ¹ not a hart but aded to former sin by theire Neglect of this tender of Mercye ² being diuers of them Tainted with the then epidemicall deseas of som p^rte of the Country about that time; viz a slight esteem of an able minnestr^y; the Summer following hee was Invited to douer on Pascattaqva River and thither went and was Called to minnesteriall office there wherin hee Continewed vntil his death; hee was an able faithfull laboriouse preacher of the Gospell; and a wise orderer of the affaires of the Church hee was singularly Indowed with a Gift and propence vpon his speritt to traine vp children in a Cattikettical way in the Grounds of Christian Religion; soe that by losse of him Ignorance Inseued in the Towne of Plymouth amongst the; vougare and alsoe much lysensiousnes and prophanes amongst ³ the younger sort, in a word this worthy leader was Richly accomplished with such Gifts and qvallifications as were befitting his place being wise faithfull Graue sober a loue of Good men Not Greedy of the matters of the world Armed with much faith patience ⁴ and meeknes mixed with Currage for the cause of God; hee finished his Course att douer aforsaid and was there honorably buried in the month of Aprill in ⁵ the yeer ⁶ 1669: Whoe is; that ffaithfull and wise Steward whom his Lord when hee Cometh shall find soe doeing; Mat: 24: 46: [57]

Before I passe on to Contract matters ymeadiatly Relateing to the Church of Christ att Plymouth, lett mee Craue leaue a little to digresse; and breifley to memorise somthing Concerning that worthy Church of Christ att Bridgwater whoe in a second Respect alsoe sprange out of the Church of Plymouth being first of duxburrow; and seated themselues att about 20 miles from thence att the place where they now are and doe Carry on in a way of peace holines and Good Gospell order soe as is exemplary to the saints and Churches Round about them being Garnished with Comly ornaments of able Graue and faithfull officers and liuely holy and well Improued members haueing for theire Pastour M^r James Keith who Came by the

¹ Written above a word crossed out.

² Here the words "by the" are crossed out.

³ Here "amongst" is crossed out.

⁴ Here "and" is crossed out.

⁵ Written above "and," crossed out.

⁶ Here the words "of Aprill" are crossed out.

wise disposing hand of God out of Scotland ¹ whom the said Church Chose to be there Pastour being accompanied ² with a fellow healer in the Eldership named m^r Willam Brett a Gaue and Godly man; and haueing A goodman and one that hath approued himself faithfull in the office of a deacon; Named John Willis; whoe Notwithstanding some Interruption that befell them some smale time before the pening heerof yett goe on in peace and with Comfort; with some mixture of sadnes as fearing the effect of there beloued Pastour forenamed; his being in weaknes of body; wherby hee is disabled in his publick adminestrations for p^rsent;

But to Return where wee left on the othersyde, with the departure of Good m^r Rayner by death

Soon after whose departure to douer and noe hopes of his Returne to take place amongst; this poor forlorne fflck of Christ Groning vnder the want of Gospell ordinances wee made many tryalls for a supply Improueing therin the healpe of the Reuernd Elders of the churches of Christ in the Massachusetts Bay; and by diuers sollicitations att sundry times ³ seuerll Messengers were sent to them and the said Church Craueing there best healp for a supply; but Could not obtaine any healp Notwithstanding there said Indeauers which ⁴ alsoe were accompanied with fasting and prayer frequently; Continueing in this Condition for the space of about nine yeers; yett it is to be Remembred with thankfullnes vnto the lord both by vs surviveing and others of this Race that may ⁵ surviue that the lord did not wholly desert his Church but vpheld them in a Constant way of ⁶ publick worship euery lords day soe as to my Remembrance there did not one sabbath pas without two publick meetings in which the word of God was dispenced either by some of the Naigh-boring Minnesters; or and that more frequently and Constantly by ⁷ our beloued Elder m^r Thomas Cushman and some other brethern; the prenciple wherof were our then Surviueing and much honored Gou^r: m^r Willam Bradford and his son in law Captaine

¹ Here "and" is crossed out.

² Written above a word crossed out.

³ Here some words are crossed out.

⁴ Written above a word crossed out.

⁵ Written above "doe," crossed out.

⁶ Here the letter "w" is crossed out.

⁷ Here the words "some for" are crossed out.

Thomas Southworth a man Rarely Indowed both in Sacred and Ciuill Respects; and haueing Named him; and haueing alsoe spoken formerly Competently of the worth of that worthy servant of Christ forenamed: viz: m^r Willam Bradford ¹ I shall stepp aside a little to Informe the Reader in the worth of this blessed saint whoe ended his life in the yeer 1669 after a long time of ² affliction vnder which hee Carried with much patience and Cherefullnes; hee was largely Indowed with a quicke apprehension and Good expression and of a Cherfull fram of speritt and loueing vnto all with humillitie and familiiaritie as occation was towards all sorts of p^rsons but principally loued the saints; but more especially those that were most eminent in Grace; and Reuerenced and delighted in a Godly able minnistry hee had Attained to a Great Measure of vnderstanding in the Mistery of Jesus Christ of ffaith in him and liueing vp vnto him; and the Lord was pleased a little before his death to speake much peace to his soule in assureance of his loue through Christ Jesus; hee delighted in Cenceritie and was of an vnbiased Justice in all his actinges especially as to Majestraticall Respects; hee was not eger to seeke Great things for himself; hee was Instrumentall to both Court Church and Towne in which Respects all will dearly want him; haueing a Good abillitie to teach publickly hee was frequently Improued on that service; and the last time hee was att the publicke meeting on the lords day; hee exercised out of the 18th of Genesis 19: ³ and finished his Course with much peace and Joy in beleieueing on the 8th of december 1669 [58]

1680

But to Returne;

It pleased the Lord to mix much Mercye with ⁴ our affliction in the time of our vacancye of Minnistry not onely to healep vs to Carry on the worship of God but to healep vs alsoe to Conflict with some Considerable opposition; not onely from those whoe were of our owne before Named but in that time alsoe the p^rnisious sect of those Called Quakers arose whoe seuerall times Came to our Towne; and had speech with seuerall of vs and endeauored to broach there

¹ Here "fornamed" is crossed out.

² Here a letter is crossed out.

³ Here a figure is crossed out or blotted.

⁴ Here "with" is crossed out.

Cursed oppinions amongst vs; yett soe Graciously it pleased our Good God to dispose that although wee were destitute of any officially, to oppose these Gainsaiers yett of his Grace, soe to healp vs by his holy speritt to vnderstand and Improue his Good word; that none of vs were leauened with their fixions or fantacyes; noe not soe much as any of our Towne (saue one family) which I desire may frequently be Remembred with humble thanksgiueing vnto the Lord by our selues and by others of the saints in our behalfe;

But as before expressed It pleased the Lord in that time of our soe Great and spirituall wants to hold vp our harts in an earnest desire of Minnistry and to put forth in Answarable Indeauors to procure the same; and wee had some answare and obtained some healp somtimes in preaching the word amongst vs p^rtely by one M^r James Williams; whoe was an able Gospell preacher; wee had hopes att his first Coming of his Continuance amonst vs; but hee soon left vs and went for England; In like manor m^r Willam Brinsmead a well accomplished servant of Christ Came to vs and was with ys one winter but att last saw Cause alsoe to leaue vs; and soe as yett wee Remained as sheep without a Shepard vntill att Length It pleased the Lord to send amonst vs m^r John Cotton the son of m^r John Cotton that famouth Gospell Preacher; somtimes Teacher of the first Church of Christ att Boston; the said m^r Cotton Jun^r was a man of stronge p^rtes and Good Abillities to preach the word of God; whoe after some time spent amongst vs was Chosen our Pastour and hath Continewed in that place amonst vs for the space of ten yeers and vpwards att the writing heerof; from whom wee haue Receiued many very proffitable trutthes; and whoe ought to be the subject of our prayers that the Lord would Inspire him more and more with his holy speritt soe as hee may be an Instrument of his praise that soe by soundnes of doctrine and Cenceritie of Conversation hee may be Inabled Instrumentally to saue his owne soule and the soules of those that haue or may heare him;

Robert
finney and
Ephraim
Morton
deacons

And now lett the Reader take Notice. that the lord hath built this Church and preserued it ¹ in Gospell order and holy proffession of his truth this threescore and twelue yeers; twelue yeers in holland and threescore yeers in New England and hath Carried it through

¹ Here "and" is crossed out.

many daingers sorrowes p^rsecutions and oppositions; soe as it Remaines althoe (much Inferiour to its first¹ begining) yett a church of Jesus Christ; haueing many Names in it whoe haue Not defiled theire Garments whoe Noe doubt butt will walk with Christ in white Rayment for they are worthy Reuelati 3:4: yee the Lord In former times hath made it an Insightment and directory vnto others both in this Collonie and other Collonies in this land blessed be his holy name for the same The Consideration wherof Induceth mee to leaue a few words of exhortation first to such of the Rising Generation as are Related to the Church that they would make Good theire leaders Ground by followeing theire steps in the wayes of Christ in an holy and vnblamable life and Conversation and to Indeaour to walke in all the wayes and ordinances of God without Reproffe [59]

luke 1: 6:

And the Rather lett this exhortation be Considered because soe many of the Rising Generation walk off from God and Neglect the Couenant which theire fathers made with him² there seemes to be such a declinsion from the wayes of God appeering as wee Read of Judges 2:10: speaking of Israell; “and soe all the Generation was Gathered vnto theire fathers; and another Generation arosse after them which neither knew the lord; nor the workes which hee had don for Israell” &c:

2 Forasmuch as there seemes to appeer such a darke Cloud³ ouer the Christian world;⁴ which p^rtends a day of trouble and p^rsecution for the Name of Christ; that soe wee would walk in following the lord fully in an Constant holy and vnblamable proffession of his Gospell; keeping the word of his Patience that soe wee may be kept from the hour of temptation which is probably Coming vpon all the world Reue: 3:10: And soe Induring to the end wee may be saued: 24: ⁵ mat: 13:

Zach: 6:
12: 13

Now vnto him that hath built and p^rserued this Church and all the Churches in this Land and through out the world; though in troublesom times whoe⁶ is the man that is Called the branch; whoe

¹ Here “beging” is crossed out.

² Here “thinges” is crossed out.

³ Here “of” is crossed out.

⁴ Here some words are crossed out.

⁵ This figure has been altered.

⁶ Here “hath” is crossed out.

hath doth and will build¹ the Temple of the Lord and hee shall beare the Glory Daniel: 9:
24 25

Now vnto him be Glory in the Church throuout all Ages world without end Amen

My earnest Request to those that shall Succeed both the Elders and Bretheren of this Church that they would be Carefull to Comitt to writing such future passages of Gods dispensations, as shall in the visissitude of his Good Prouidence Come to pas in succeeding times of and Conserving ecclesiasticall Considerations in speciall that soe theire May be a succession of Renewed and various occations of praiseing God and the following Generations may haue the vse and benifitt of the; same the Good Lord be² pleased to speritt one or other of his servants for this soe Good a worke

Lett the Reader take Notice that att the writing of this smale history there are fourscore Churches in Gospell order in New England Magar the Mallice of men and diuells; soe Greatly is the honor of the King of kinges our Lord Jesus advanced by the Multitude of his subjects³ in New England & wee doubt not but there are Many Blessed saints in the Land which are fitt to be layed and placed in the Lords building the Lord adde vnto his Churches from day to day such as shalbe Saued; [60⁴] [61]

GODLY AND CONSIENCIOUS READER

Itt is a Great part of the happines of heauen that the saints in Celestiall Glory are and shalbe all of one mind; and it is Not vnprobably Gathered by the Learned that when the Lord shalbe one and his Name one; there shalbe a Joynt Concurrence of the saints, in and about the matters of God; in the mean time it is Noe smale Greiffe to euery modest Moderate minded Christian; to see such discord amongst the best of saints, wheras if the Ground of the difference were somtimes well Scaned, it would appeer to be more in Cercomstance then in substance; more Nominall or Respecting Names or abusiue Names Giuen; then in substantial Reallities; Reuerend m^r Manton in his Sermon before the honorable house of Comons; Zache: 14: 9

¹ Here "Jerusalem" is crossed out.

² Here some letters are crossed out.

³ Here "and" is crossed out.

⁴ Page [60] is blank.

these differences were
partly blowne
up amongst
these Christians by the
Names of
Brownest and
Puritans

saith the diuill geteth Great advantages by Names amongst vs¹ Christia[ns] as Lutherans Caluenists Presbeterians Independants Inventing (saith hee) either such as may² tend to Contempt or derision as of old Christians of Late puritans; or to tumult and deuision as those Names amongst vs, vnder which the Members of Christ sadly Gather in to bodyes and p^rties Lett mee adde heervnto; That the mischiffe of this alsoe appeered when light sprange out of darknes of Popery; Then the Godly were forced to sustaine the Name of Puritanes and the Nicke Name of Brownests soe as many of the Godly in our Nation Lay in obscuritie vnder Contempt of those Names; and afterwards as Light appeered Notwithstanding became one in the profession & practice of the truth, Respecting the Kingly office of Christ wherein they seemingly differed; but a little before; both in New England and in old England But yett soe as som estrangednes Remaines amongst those although that in the maine and substance of things they are of one mind and with onenes of hart and mouth doe serue the Lord; and doe agree in and about the matters of the Kingdome of Christ on earth; yee and I doubt not but som such of them as were of³ the eminentest on both sydes whoe are now departed this life doe agree and haue sweet Communion with each other in their more Noble p^rte in Glory; I haue lately mett with a plaine Well Composed and vsefull dialogue; Pened by that honored Pateren of Piety Willam Bradford Esq^r: late Gou^r of the Jurisdiction of New Plymouth Collonie which occationally treats som thing of this Mater together with and In defence of such as I may without Just offence tearme martires of Jesus; and In defence of the Cause they suffered for; it being noe other in effect but what our Church and the Churches of Christ⁴ in New England doe both professe and practice I will not defend⁵ Neither doth hee all the words that might fall from those blessed soules in defence of the truth whoe suffered soe bitterly as they did from such as ere while; if I mistake Not, were forced to ffly into Germany for the Cause of God in Queen Maryes dayes and

¹ This word is perhaps crossed out.

² Here "Giue" is crossed out.

³ This word is perhaps crossed out.

⁴ Here "do" is crossed out.

⁵ Here "a" is crossed out.

Returned againe in the happy Raighe of Queen Elizabeth and turned Prelates and bitter p^rsecutors, this thinge Considered,¹ and other thinges; alsoe if some passages that fell from them ² might haue bin spared; yett in Many thinges wee all offend, and oppression will make a wise man madd saith Sollomon such Cercomstantiall weaknes will not vnsaint a Christian; Nor Render him noe Martire; if his Cause be Good, as you will find it to be by the Pruseing of this dialogue I doubt not; but lett it speake for it self; Gentle Reader I hope thou wilt obtaine a Cleare Resolution about diuers things whereof Posibly thou wert In doubt of formerly Respecting the p^rmisses; In the Transcribing wherof I haue taken the best Care I Could to preuent offence and to procure acceptance if any ⁵ good Comes therof lett God haue all the praise [62]

m^r henery
Barrow m^r
John Green-
wood m^r John
Penery [m^r]
William denis
Coppin;³
and Elias ⁴
and seuerall
others that
suffered much
tho not put
to death

A Dialogue ⁶

or the sume of a Conference between som younge
men borne in New England and sundery
Ancient men that came out of holland
and old England Ann^o
dom 1648

Gentlemen you were pleased to appoint vs this time to Confer with you and to propound such questionas as might Giue vs satisfaction in some thinges wherin wee Are Ignorant or att least further light to som thinges that are more obscure vnto vs our first Request therfore is to know your minds Concerning the true and simple Meaning of those of the separation as they are tearmed; when they say the Church of England is noe Church or noe true Church;

ffor Answere heervnto first you must know that they speak of it as it then was vnder the hirarcieall prelacye which since haue bin put downe by the State, and not as it is Now vnsettled;

2 They noe where say that wee Remember that they are noe

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here "which" is crossed out.

³ John Coppin: see p. 123, below.

⁴ Elias Thacker: see p. 123, below.

⁵ Here "Good" is crossed out.

⁶ This Dialogue, together with Morton's preface, is printed in Young's Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers, pp. 411-457.

Church; att Least they are not soe to be vnderstood; for they often say the Contrary;

3 When they say it is noe true Church of Christ they doe not att all mean as they are the elect of God or a p^rte of the Catholique Church or of the misticall body of Christ or visible Christians professing faith and holines (as most men vnderstand the Church) for which purpose hear what m^r Robinson in his Apollogye¹ page 58: if by the Church saith hee) be vnderstood the Catholique dispersed vpon the face of the whole earth; wee doe willingly acknowlidg that a singulare p^rte therof and the same visible and Conspicuous is to be found in the land; and with it doe professe and practice what in vs lyes Comunion in all things in themselues Lawfull and don in Right order;

4ly Therefore they meane it is not a true Church as it is a Nationall Church Combined together of all in the land promisiquously vnd the hirarchicall Gou^rment of archbisshopps their Courts and Canons soe farr differing from the primitiue patteren; in the Gospell

Young men

Wherin doe they differ then from the Judgment or practice of our churches heer in New England;

Ansient men

Truly for matter of practice Nothing att all that is in any thinge materiall these being Rather more strict and Ridged in some proceedings about admission of Members and things of such Nature then the other; and for matter of Judgment it is more (as wee Conceiue in words and tearmes then matter of any Great substance; for the Churches and Cheiffe of the minnesters heer hold that the Nationall Church soe Constituted and Gou^rned as before is said, is not allowable² according to the p^rmitiue order of the Gospell; but that there are some Parrish Assemblies that are true Churches by vertue of an Implissed Couenant amongst them selues in which Regard the Church of England may be held and Called a true Church;

Answare Wher any such are euident (wee suppose the other will not disagree about an Implissed Couenant if they mean by an Implissed Couenant that which hath the substance of a Couenant in it some way discernable though it be Not soe formall or orderly as it should be But such an Implissed as is Noe way explissed is Noe better

¹ Apologia Ivsta, et Necessaria . . . Qvovvndam Christianorum, . . . dicatorum Brownistarum sive Barrowistarum, etc., 1619. Printed in English in 1625.

² Here "acknow" is crossed out.

then a popish Implicd faith (as some of vs Conceiue) and a meer fixion or as that which should be a Marriage Couenant; which is noe way explyssed [63]

Wherin standeth the difference between the Ridged Brownists and Young men Separatist and others as wee obserue our Minnesters in their writings and Sermons to distinguish them;

The Name of Brownists is but a Nicke Name as Puritant and Ancient men hugonite &c: and therefore; they doe Not amise to decline the odium of it in what they may but by the Ridgednes of Separation they doe not soe much meane the difference for our Churches heer in New England doe the same thinge vnder the Name of Sessetion from the Corruptions found amongst them as the other did vnder the Name or tearme of separation from them; onely this declines the odium the better; see Reuerend m^r Cottons Answare¹ to m^r Bayley page the 14;

As that some which were tearmed Separatists out of some mistake and heate of Zeale forbore Comunion in lawfull thinges with² other Godly p^rsons as prayer and hearing of the word as may be seen in what that worthy man M^r Robinson hath published in dislike therof;

Wee are well satisfyed in what you haue said but they differ alsoe Younge men about Sinods

It is true wee doe not know that euer they had any sollomne Sin- Ancient men odicall Assembly and the Reason may be that those in England liueing dispersed and Could not meet in their ordinary meetings without danger much lesse in ³ Synods neither in holland where they might haue more libertie were they of any Considerable Number being but those two Churches That of Amsterdam and that of Leyden; yett some of vs know that the Church sent Messengers to those of Amsterdam; att the Request of some of the Cheiffe of them both Elders and bretheren,* *When in their desentions they had deposed m^r Ainsworth and some other both of their elders & bretheren m^r Robins: being the Cheiffe of the messengers sent which had that good effect as that they Revoaked the said deposition and Confessed their Rashnes and errour and liued together in peace some good

¹ The Way of Congregational Churches Cleared: In two Treatises, etc., 1648.

² Written above "which," crossed out.

³ Here "Sinods" is crossed out.

time after¹ but when the Churches want Neither peace Nor light to exercise the power² which the Lord hath Giuen them Christ doth not direct them to Gather into Synods for Chassicall meetings for Remoueing of knowne offences either in doctrine Nor manors; but onely sendeth to the Pastours or presbiters of each Church to Reforme within themselues what is Amongst them Reuelation Chapt: 2cond and Chapi 3: a Plaine Patteren saith m^r Cotton in his Answare to m^r Bayley page 95 in Case of publick offences tollerated in Naighbour Churches; Not forth with to Gather into a Synod (for Classicall meeting for Redresse therof but by letters and messengers to Admonish one another of what is behooffull vnlesse vpon such admonishion they Refusse to harken to the wholsom Councell of theire bretheren; and of this matter m^r Robinson thus writeth in his book Justi: page 200:³ The officers of one or many Churches may meet together to discusse and Consider of matters for the Good of the Church or Churches; and soe be Called a Church Synod; or the like soe they Infringe Noe order of Christ or libertie of the bretheren; not differing heerin from m^r Dauenport and the principall of our Minnesters;

Younge men

Butt they seem to differ about the exercise of Propheseye that is that men out of office haueing Gifts may vpon occasion edify the Church publickly and oppenly and applying the Scriptures which seemes to be a New practice;

Ancient men

1 It doeth but seem soe as many thinges else doe that haue by vsurpation growne out of vse, But that it hath bine an ancient practice of the people of God besides the Grounds of Scripture wee will Giue an Instance or two; Wee find in the Ancient Ecclesiasticall history of Eusebious libr: 6 Chap 19 how demetrius Bishop of Allexandrya; being pricked with Envie against origin⁴ Complaineth in his Letters that there was Neuer such a practice heard of nor noe pre-sedent to be found that lay men in p^rsence of Bishopps haue taught in the Church; But is thus Answared by the Bishopp of Jerusalem, [64] Jurusalem and the Bishopp of Cesaria; wee Know not say they

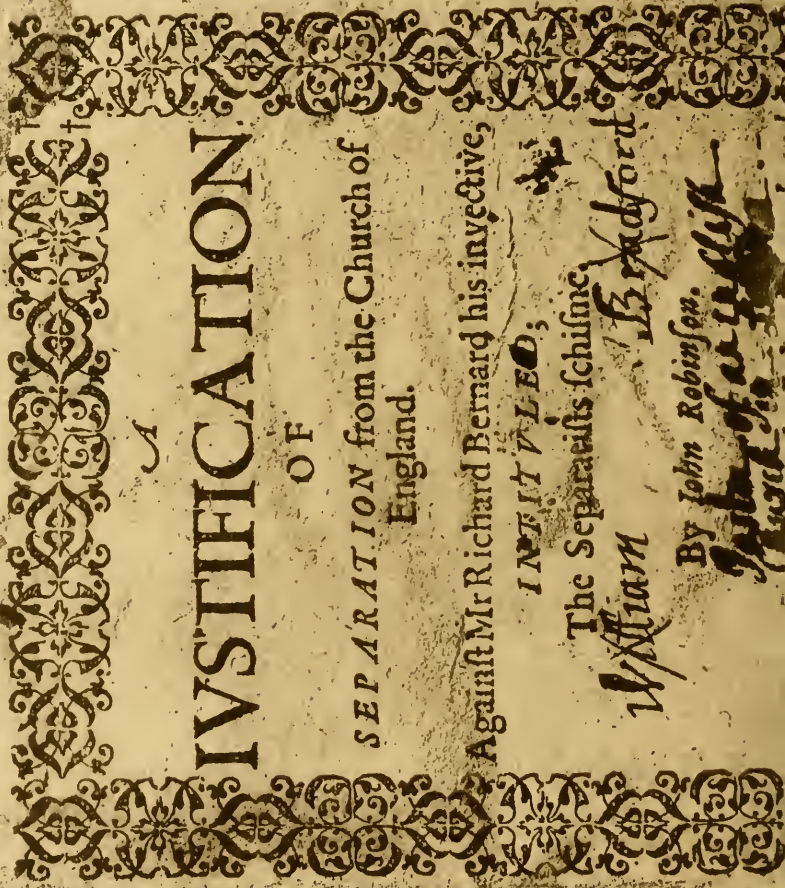
¹ The words beginning “*When in” and ending with “good time after” are written in the margin.

² Here “with” is crossed out.

³ A Iustification of Separation from the Church of England. Against Mr. Richard Bernard his invective, Intitvled; The Separatists schisme, etc., 1610.

⁴ Here the letters “Ch” are crossed out.

Belonging to the Church of England



A
JUSTIFICATION
OF

SEPARATION from the Church of
England.

Against Mr Richard Bernard his invective,

IMPUTED;

The Separatists schisme,

William
Bridford

By John Robinson.

Author of a 4th disc.
London 1639

darknes. Gen. 1. 4.

What communion hath light with darkness?

2 Cor. 6. 14.

Anno D. 1610.

Engraved for The Colonial Society of Massachusetts

why hee Reporteth a manifest vntruth when as there may be found such as in open assemblyes haue taught the people; yee when as there were p^rsent Learned men that Could profit the people and moreouer holy bishopps whoe att that time exhorted them¹ to preach; for example att Laranda Euelptas was Requested of Neon att Iconiam Paulinnus was Requested by Celsus of Synada theodorus was Requested by Atticus; whoe wer Godly Bretheren &c:

see doct^r
fulke² alsoe
on Romans
the eleventh
In Answere
to the Remists

2 The second Instance is out of Speeds Cloud of witnesses page 71 saith hee Rambam or Maymon Records that in the Sinnagogues 1 onely a Leuitt must offer Sacrifice 2condly but any in Israell might expound the Law, thirdly the exponder must be an eminent man and must haue leaue from the master of the Sinagoge; and soe Concluds³ that Christ Luke the 4th:16: Taught as any of Israell might haue don as well as the Leuites and the like did Paul & Barnabas Acts 13: 15:

If any out of weaknes haue abused Att any time theire Libertie it is theire p^rsonall fayleing⁴ as somtimes weake Minnesters may theire office and yett the ordinance Good and lawfull *

*3 And the Cheife of our minnesters in New England agree therin see m^r Cottons Answare to Bayley page the 27:2 part Though Neither all (saith hee) nor most of the brethern of a Church haue ordinarily Receiued a Gift of publick Propheseyeing, or Preaching; yett in defect of publick Minnistry, It is Not an vnheard of Nouelty that God should Inlarge private men with publick Gifts and to despence them to edification for wee Read that when the Church att Jerusalem were all Scattered abroad except the Apostles; yett they that were scattered went euery where preaching the word; Actes 8: 5: & 11: 19: 20: 21⁵

M^r Robinson alsoe in his Apollogye page 50: Chap: 8: to take of the aspersion Charged on them as if all the members of a Church were to Propheseye publickly: Answares it comes within the Compas but of a few of the Multitude happily two or three in a Church soe to doe;

¹ Here a word, perhaps "Cheifly," is crossed out.

² William Fulke, *The Text of the New Testament of Jesus Christ*, translated out of the vulgar Latine by the Papists of the traiterous Seminarie at Rhemes, etc., 1589.

³ Perhaps "Contentds."

⁴ Here the letters "fayli" are crossed out.

⁵ See p. 120 note 4, below.

and touching ¹ prophesying saith hee wee think the very same that the Synod att Emden held 1571 and decreed in these words; first in all Churches whether springing vp or Growing to some Ripnes lett the order of Phrophesying be obserued according to Paules Institution ²

2 Into the fellowship of this work are to be admitted Not onely the minnesters but the Teacher ³ as alsoe of the deacons yee alsoe of the Multitude which are willing to Confer theire Gift Receiued of God to the Comon vtillitie of the Church but soe as they first be allowed by the Judgment of the minnesters & others soe wee be-leiue and practice with the Belgick Churches &c: see more in the emediatte following page ⁴

Younge men

Wee Can not but Maruell that in soe few yeers theire should be soe Great a Change That they whoe ⁵ were soe hotly p^rsecuted by the prelates but alsoe opposed by the better sort of Minnesters not onely m^r Gifford m^r Barnard and and other such like but many of the most eminent both for Learning and Godlynes and yett Now Not onely these famous men and Churches in New England soe fully to Close with them in practice but all the Godly p^rtye in the Land to Stand for the same way vnder the New name of Independants put vpon them;

Ancient men

It is the Lords doeing and it ought to be Marueilous in our eyes and the Rather because M^r Barnard in his booke ⁶ made theire smale Encrease in a few yeers one and the Cheiffe Argument against the way it selfe To which M^r Robinson Answared that Religion is not alwayes sowne and Reaped in one age; and that John husse and Jerome of Prague finished theire Course a hundred yeers before Luther; and Wickliffes as Longe before them and yett Neither the one Nor the ⁷ other with like succes as Luther; and yett saith hee

¹ Here some words are crossed out.

² See note 4, below.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

⁴ The three paragraphs beginning “*3 And the Cheife” and ending with the words “following page” are written on a small sheet of paper pasted to p. [64] of the text. The verso of the sheet is blank. The page measures 5 inches in height by 5 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches in width.

⁵ Here “soe” is crossed out.

⁶ Richard Bernard, *Christian Advertisements and Counsels of Peace*. Also *Disuasions from the Separatists schisme*, commonly called *Brownisme*, etc., 1608.

⁷ Altered from “theire.”

Many are alreddy Gathered into the kingdom of Christ; and the Nearnes of many more throughout the whole land for the Regions are white vnto the haruest and doe promise within lesse then an hundred yeer; if our sines and theires make vs not vnworthy of his Mercye a very plentuous haruest¹ *Justi folio* (62) as if hee had Prophetised of these times yee some of vs haue oftens heard him say that euen those minesters and other Godly p^rsons that did then most sharply oppose them; if they might Come to be from vnder the Bishoppes and liue in a place of Rest and peace whear they might Comfortably subsist they would practice the same thinges which they now did; and truely many of vs haue seen this abundantly verifed; Not onely in these latter times but formerly doctor Ames was estranged from and opposed M^r Robinson and yett afterwards there was loueing Compliance and Neare agreement between them; and which is more strange m^r Johnson himself whoe was afterwards Pastour of the Church of God att Amsterdam; was a preacher to the Companie of English of the Staple att Middlebery at Zealand and had Great and sertaine maintainance² allowed him by them and was highly Respected of them and soe Zealous against this way [65] way as that m^r Barrowes and m^r ³Greenwoods Refutation of Gifford⁴ was privately in Printing in this Cittey hee Not onely was a Meanes to discouer it but was made the Ambassadors Instrument to Intercept them att the presse and see them burnt, the which Charge hee did soe well p^rforme as hee lett them Goe on vntill they were wholly ffinished; and then surprised the whole Impression Not suffering any to escape; and then by the Majestrates Authoritie Caused them all to be openly burnt himselfe standing by vntill they were all Consumed to Ashes onely hee took vp two of them; one to keep in his owne Studdy that hee might see theire errours and the other to bestow on a speciall ffrind for the like vse; But Marke the Sequell; when hee had don this worke; hee went home and being sett downe in his Studdy; hee began to turne ouer some pages of this book; and Superficially to Read some

¹ Here "Justi" is crossed out.

² Written above a word crossed out.

³ Here "Greenoods" is crossed out.

⁴ A plaine Refutation of M. Giffard's booke, intituled A short Treatise against the Donatistes of England, etc., 1605.

things heer and there as his fancy led him; att length hee mett with something that began to work vpon his sperit which soe wrought with him as drew him to this Resolution seriously to Read ¹ ouer the whole book the which hee did once and againe, In the end hee was soe taken and his Consience ² was troubled soe as hee could haue Noe Rest in him self vntill hee Crossed the seas and Came to London to Confer with the Authers whoe ³ were then in prison and shortly after executed; after which Conference; hee was soe satisfied and Confermed in the truth as hee Neuer Returned to his place any more at Middleburrow but adjoynd himself to theire societie att London and was afterwards Comitted to prison and then banished; and In Conclusion Comeing to Liue att Amsterdam hee Caused the same bookes which hee had bin an Instrument to burne to be New printed and sett out att his owne Charge; and some of vs heer p'sent Testify this to be a ⁴ true Relation which was heard from his owne Mouth before many witnesses;

Young men

Wee haue seen a book of m^r Robert Bayleys ⁵ a Scotchman wherin hee seemeth to take Notice of the spreading of the truth vnder the Notion of error and Casts all the disgraces hee Can on it and Rankes it with others the foulest errors of the time and Indeauors to shew how like a small Sparke it Reviued out of the ashes and was brought from Leyden ouer the seas into New England and there Nurrished with much silence vntill it spread to other places in the Countrey ⁶ and by eminent hands from thence into old England

Ancient men

As wee dare say m^r Bayley Intends noe honor to the p'sons by what hee sayes either to those heer or from whence they Came soe are they farr from seekeing any to themselues but Rather are ashamed that theire weake wakeing ⁷ hath brought noe more Glory to God; and if in any thinge God hath made any of them Instruments for the Good of his people; in any measure they desire hee onely may haue the Glory and whereas M^r Bayley affeirmeth that howeuer it was

¹ Here "ouer" is crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Here the letters "we" are crossed out.

⁴ Here a word, perhaps "truth," is crossed out.

⁵ A Dissuasive from the Errours of the Time; wherein the Tenets of the Principall Sects, especially of the Independents, are drawn together in a map, 1645-6.

⁶ Here the words "in the Countrey" are crossed out.

⁷ Perhaps "workeing."

in a few yeers the most whoe settled in the land did agree to modle themselves after m^r Robinsons¹ Patteren;

Wee agree with Reuerend M^r Cotton that "there was Noe agreement by any sollemne or Comon Consultation but that it is true they did, as if they had agreed by the same speritt of truth and vnity sett vp by the healp of Christ; The same modle of Churches one like another; and if they of Plymouth haue helped any of the first Comers in theire Theory by hearing² and discerning theire practices, therin the Scriptures, fulfilled that the Kingdom of heauen is like vnto Leauen which a woman took and hid in three measures of meale vntill all was Leauened mat: 13:3" Answare to m^r Bayley Page 17 [66]

Wee desire to know how many haue bin put to death for this Young men
Cause and what manor of p^rsons they were and what occations were taken against them by bringing them to theire end

Wee know Certainly of six that were publickly executed besides Ancient men
such as died in prisons

M ^r henery Barrow	}	These suffered at Tyburne
M ^r Greenwood		

M^r Penery att S^t Thomas a Waterings by London

M^r Willam³ dennis att Thetford in Norffolke

Two others att Saint Edmonds in Suffolke whose Names were Coppin⁴ and Elias⁵ These two last mensioned were Condemned by Crewell Judge Popham Whose Countenance and Carriage was very Rough and seuerer toward them with many sharp menasses but God Gaue them Curriage to bear it and to make this Answare;

My Lord your face wee feare not
And for your threats wee Care not
And to Come to your Read service wee dare not

these two last named were put to death for dispersing of books
ffor m^r dennis hee was a Godly man and faithfull in his place but

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here some words, perhaps "by hearing," are crossed out.

³ Here "denis" is crossed out.

⁴ John Coppin (Copping) was hanged in 1583. Sketches of Henry Barrow, John Coppin, John Greenwood, and John Penry will be found in the Dictionary of National Biography.

⁵ This was Elias Thacker, who was hanged in 1583: see Stow, *Annales*, or *Generall Chronicle of England* (1615), p. 696.

what occation was taken against him wee know not more then the Comon cause;

ffor m^r Penery how vnjustly hee was Charged him self hath made manifest to the world in his bookes and that declaration which hee made a little before his suffering all which are extant in print, with some of his Godly letters

As ffor m^r Barrow and m^r Greenwood it alsoe appeers by their owne writings how those Satutes formerly made against the Papists were wrested ¹ against them and they Condemned thervpon; as may be seen by their examinations

Young men

But these were Ridged Brownist and lye vnder much Aspersion and their Names much blemished and beclouded Not onely by enimies but euen by Godly and very Reuerend men;

Ancient men

They Can noe more Justly be Called Brownests then the desiples might haue bin Called Judasitts *

*ffor they did as much abhor Brownes Apostacye and prophane Course and his ² defection as the disiples and other Christians did Judas Treachery

And for their Ridged and Roughnes of Speritt as some of them especially m^r Barrows is Taxed it may be Considered they were very Ridgedly and Roughly dealt with not onely by ³ the Lords enimies and their enimies but by some Godly p^rsons of those times differing in opinions from them which makes some of vs Call to mind what one doctor Tayler hath written in a late booke in these Stirring times "such an eminent man (saith hee) hath had the Good happ to be Reputed orthodox by Posteritie and to Condemne such a man or such an oppinion; and yett him selfe to haue erred in as Considerable matters but meeting with better Naighbours in his life time and a more Charritable Posteritie after his death; hath his memory preserued in honor and the others Name suffers without Cause;" of which hee Giues Instances in his book Intitled the libertie of Prophesying Page 33 & following; [67]

Wee Refer you to m^r Robinson answare ⁴ to m^r Barnard where hee Charges him with Blesphemy Railing Scoffing ⁵ &c

¹ Here some words, perhaps "were wrested," are crossed out.

² Written above "there," crossed out.

³ Here "Go" is crossed out.

⁴ Written above a word crossed out.

⁵ Here "and" is crossed out.

"ffor m^r Barrow saith m^r Robinson; as I say with m^r Ainsworth that I will Not Justify all the words of another man nor yett my owne soe say I alsoe with m^r Smith that because I know not by what p^rticular motion of the speritt hee¹ was Guided to write those Phraises I dare not Censure him as you doe especially Considering with what fiery Zeale the Lord hath furnished such his servants att all times as hee hath stered vp for speciall Reformation; lett the example of Luther alone suffice who into what tearmes his zeale Carryed him his writings testify and yett both in him and m^r Barrow there might be with true sperituall Zeale ffleshly Indignation Intermixed" Answare to m Barnard folio 84 And further in Paged 86 hee saith that "such harsh Tearmes wherwith hee Entertaines such p^rsons & thinges in the Church as Carry with them² most appearence of holines, they are to be Interpreted according to his meaning with³ this distinction that m^r Barrow speaks not of these p^rsons and thinges simply but in Respect soe and soe Considered, and soe Noe one tearme Giuen by m^r Barrow but May att the least be tollerated;"

But diuers Reuerend men haue expressed Concerning this matter Young men that God is not wont to make Choice of men Infamous for Grosse sinnes and vices before theire Callinge to make them any Instruments of Reformation⁴ after theire Calling and proceeds to declare that m^r Barrow was a Great Gamster and a dicer when hee liued in Court, and Giting much by play would bost of⁵ losse spending it with Curtezences &ci

Truely with due Respect to such Reuerend men be it spoken those Ancient men things might well haue bin spared from puting in print especially soe longe after his death when not onely hee but all his frinds are taken out of the world that might vindecate his Name that hee was tainted with vices att the Court before his Conversion and Calling it is Not very strange and if hee had liued and died in that Condition; It is like hee might haue Gon out of the world without any publick brand on his Name and haue pased for a tollerable Christian and Member of the Church; hee had hurt enough don him whiles hee

¹ Here a word, perhaps "seak," is crossed out.

² Here the words "with them" are crossed out.

³ Here "this" is crossed out.

⁴ Here "soe" or "for" is crossed out.

⁵ Here "those" is crossed out.

liued by euill and Crewell enimies; why should Godly men by pre-judicated to him after his death in his Name was not the Apostle Paule a p^rsecuter of Gods saints vnto death and doth Not the same Apostle ¹ speakeing of Scandulas and Laciuious p^rsons say and such were some of you but you are washed but yee are sanctified, but yee are Justified in the Name of the lord Jesus and by the speritt of our God 1 Cor. 6:11:

And if histories deceiue vs not was Not Ciprian a Magition before his Conversion and Augustine a Manachean; and when it was said vnto him in the voyce hee heard tolle & lege hee was directed to that place of Scripture not in Götteny nor ² drunkenes Nor in Chambering and wantones nor in striffe and envying but put on the Lord Jesus Christ and take noe thought of the flesh to fulfill the lusts of it Rom:13:13: by which it may seem that if God doe not make Choise of such men as haue bin Infamous for Grosse vices before their Calling; yett somtimes hee is wont to doe it and is free to Chose ³ whome hee pleaseth for Notable Instruments for his owne worke; as for other thinges that haue bin spoken of him and m^r Greenwood and m^r Penery wee leaue them as they are; But some of vs haue Reason to think there are some mistakes in the Relations of those thinges; onely wee shall adde other publick Testimonies Concerning them from witnesses of very worthy Creditt which are alsoe in print,

from m^r Phillipps a famous and Godly Preacher haueing heard and seen m^r Barrow his holy speeches and preparations for death said Barrow Barrow my soule be [68] be with thyne; The same Auther alsoe Reports that Queen Elizabeth asked Learned doctor Reynalds what hee thought of those two men m^r Barrow and M^r Greenwood; and hee answered her Ma^{tie} that it could Not auaille any thinge to shew his Judgment Concerning them seeing they were put to death, and being loth to speake his mind further her Ma^{tie} Charged him vpon his allegience to speak whervpon hee answered that hee was p^rswaded if they had liued they would haue bin two as worthy Instruments for the Church of God as hath bin Raised vp in this age &c: her Ma^{tie} sighed and said no more But after that

¹ Here "an" is crossed out.

² Written above "and," crossed out.

³ Here the words "and is free to Choose" are crossed out.

Ryding to a Parke by the place where they were executed and being willing to take further Information Concerning them) demaunded of the Right honorable Earle of Comberland) that was p^resent when they suffered what end they made hee answered a very Godly end and prayed for your Ma^{tie} and the State &c: wee may alsoe adde what some of vs haue heard by Credible Information; that the Queen demanded of the Archbishopp what hee thought of them in his Consience hee Answered hee thought they were the servants of God; But dangerous to the State; alas said shee shall wee put the servants of God to death, and this was the true Cause why noe more of them were put to death in her dayes;

did any of you know m^r Barrow if wee may be soe bold to aske Young men
for wee would willingly know what his life and Conversation because some wee p^rseie haue him in p^resious esteem; and others Can scarce name him without some Note of oblique and dislike;

Wee haue Not seen his p^rson but some of vs haue bin well ac- Ancient men;
quainted with those that knew him familiarily both before and after his Conversion and one of vs hath had Conference with one that was his domestick servant and tended vpon him both before and some while after the same; hee was a Gentleman of good worth and a fflorishing Courtier in his time and as appeers in his owne Answers to the archbishopp and doctor Cousens that hee was sometime a Student att Cambridge and the Inns of Court and accomplished with strong p^rtes;

Wee haue heard his Conversation to be on this wise, walking in London one Lords day with one of his Companions, hee heard a preacher att his Sermon very Loud as they passed by the Church vpon which m^r Barrow said vnto his Consort Lett vs Goe in and heare what this man saith that is thus earnest Tush saith the other what shall wee goe to hear a man talk &c: But in hee went and sate downe; and the minnester was vehement¹ in Reproueing sin and sharply applyed the Judgments of God against the same; and it should seem touched him to the quick in such thinges as hee was Gilty off soe as God sett it home to his soule and began to worke his Repentance and Conversion therby, for hee was soe stricken as hee Could not be quiett vntill by Conference with Godly men and further hearing of the word with dilligent Reading and meditation

¹ Here "a" is crossed out.

God brought peace to his soule and Consience after much humilliation of hart and Reformation of life; soe as hee left the Court; and Retired him selfe to a private life some time in the Country and sometime in the Cittey Giueing him selfe to studdy and Reading of the Scriptures and other Good workes very dilligently and being mist att Court by his Consorts and acquaintance it was quickly bruited abroad That Barrow was turned Puritan; what his Course was after wards his writings shew as alsoe his sufferings and Conference with men of all sorts doe declare vntill his life was taken from him;

And thus much wee Can further affirme from those that well knew him that hee was very Comfortable to the poor and those in distresse in their sufferings, and when hee saw hee must die hee Gaue a stocke for the Reliefe of the poor of the Church; which was a Good [69] healep to them in their banished Condition afterwards; yee and that which some will hardly beleiue hee did much p'swade them to peace and Composed many differences that were Growne amongst them whiles hee liued, and would haue it is Like preuented more that after fell out; if hee had Continewed;

Young men

Wee thanke you for your paines wee hope it will extend further then our satisfaction wee Can not but maruell that such a man should be by soe many aspersed;

Ancient men

It is Not much to be Maruelled att for hee was most plaine in discouering the Crewellty fraud and hipocresy of the enimies of the truth and serching into the Corruptions of the time which made him abhored of them; and p'adventure somthinge to harsh against the haltinges of diuers of the preachers and professors that hee had to deale with in those times whoe out of feare or weaknes did not come soe Close vp to the truth in their practice as their doctrines and Grounds seemed to hold forth; which makes vs Remember; what was the Answere of Erasmus to the duke of ¹ Saxony when hee asked his opinion whether ² Luther had erred hee answered his opinions were Good but wished hee would moderate his style which stired him vp the more Enimies; noe doubt;

Young men

Wee find in the writings of some such whoe were very eminent in their times for piety and Learning; that those of the Separation

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Written above "of," crossed out.

COMMENTARIJ

Succincti & Difficili

IN

PROVERBIA SALOMONIS

AUTHORE

THOMÆ CARTWRIGHTO

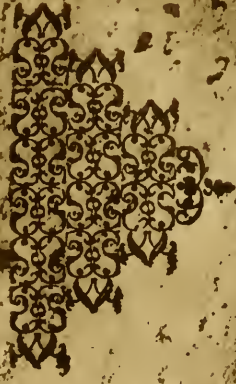
SS. Theologiae in Academia CAN.

TABRIGIENSIS quondam

Professor.

Quibus adhibita est Praefatio clarissimi viri

IOHANNES POLYANDRI



LVGDNI BATAVORVM.

Apud Guiljelmum Brevijsterum.

In vico Choralis.

1617.

Donatello. Historia Willemi Brevoortii
et the English Puritan Church, &c.

Engraved for The Colonial Society of Massachusetts

found more fauor in our Natiue Country then those whoe are Reproched by the Name of puritans and after much discourse therabouts; Come to this Conclusion; That Noe Comparison will hold from the separatists to them in theire sufferings but a¹ *Minori*²) and then they Goe on and say; what a Compulsary Banishment haue bin put vpon those blessed and Glorious Lights m^r Cartwright m^r Parker docter Ames &c

ffarr be it from ³ any of vs to detract from or to extenuate the Sufferings of any ⁴ of the servants of God; much lesse; from those worthyes fore Named, or any others afterwards mensioned; yett vnder fauor wee Craue p^rdon if wee Can not Consent to the Judgment of such eminent ones for pietie and Learning aboue hinted; Ancient men

Wee doubt not but doe ezely Graunt that the sufferings of those Reproached by the Name of Puritans were Great especially some of them & were better knowne to those pious and Learned first aboue Intimated, then the sufferings of those that are Reproached by the Name of Brownests, and Separatists; But wee shall Giue you some Instances, and leaue it to you and some others to Consider off;

1 Though Noe more were publickly executed yett sundry more were Condemned and brought to the Galloes and Assended the Ladder Not knowing but they should die and haue bin Repreiued and after banished some of which wee haue knowne and oftens ⁵ spoken with;

2 others haue not onely bin fforced into vouldentary Banishment by Great Numbers to avoid further Crewelty but diuers after Longe and sore Imprisoment haue bin fforced to abjure the land by oath neuer to Returne without Leaue in Ann^o ⁶ 1604 four p^rsons att once were fforced to doe soe att a publick sessions in London ⁷ or else vpon Refusall they were to be hanged; this theire abjuration was ⁸ done on the Statute of the 35 of Queen Elizabeth, some of these wee haue alsoe Knowne

3 Wee find mension in a printed book of 17 or eighteen that haue

¹ Here "minnory" is crossed out.

² This word is underscored three times.

³ Here "vs" is crossed out.

⁴ Here some words are crossed out.

⁵ Written above "after," crossed out.

⁶ Here "164" is crossed out.

⁷ Here some words are crossed out.

⁸ Here "on" is crossed out.

died in seuerall prisons in London¹ in six yeers time before the year ² 1592 besides what haue bin in other p'tes of the Land and since that time perishing by Could hunger or Noisomnes of the prison; [70]

4 In the same yeer wee find a lamentable Petition now in print of sixty p'sors Comited vnailable to seuerall p'sons in London as New Gate the Gatehouse Clink &c: being made Close prisoners allowing them Neither Meate drink nor Lodging; nor suffering any whose harts the Lord would stir vp for their Releiffe; to haue any accesse vnto them; soe as they Complaine that Noe fellons Traitors nor murderers in the Land; were thus dealt with, and soe after many other Greiuious Complaints Conclude with these words, "wee ³ Craue for all of vs but the libertie either to die openly or to liue openly in the Land of our Natiuity if wee deserue death It beseemeth the Ma^{tie} of Justice not to see vs Closly murdered yee starued to death with hunger & Could and stifled in Lothsome dungeans; if wee be Guiltles wee Craue but the benifitt of our Inocensse viz: That wee may haue peace to serue our God and our Prince in the place of the sepulchers of our fathers;"

And what Numbers since those whoe haue bin Put vnto ⁴ Compulsorie Banishment and other hard sufferings as losse of Goods frinds and long and hard Imprissonments vnder which many haue died It is soe well knowne that it would make vp a vollume to Reherse them and would not onely equallice but farr exceed; the Number of those Godly Called Puritans that haue suffered suppose they were but few of them Minnesters that suffered as aboue expressed yett their sorrowes might be as Great and their wants more; and their souls as much afflicted because more Contemned and Neglected of men; but some haue said they were excommunicated and that was noe Great matter; as excommunications went in those dayes; soe were these not onely while they were liueing but some of them many times after they were dead and as some of the other were Imprisoned soe were more of these; but it is further said all of them were depriued of their minnistry and soe were these of their Liuelihood and maintainance although they had noe offices to losse;

¹ Here some words are crossed out.

² Here a figure is crossed out.

³ This word has been altered.

⁴ Here a word is crossed out.

But these Remained still in the land and were succured and sheltered by Good people in a Competent wise the most of them and sundry of them liued as well as may ezely be proued if not better then as if they had Injoyed theire benifices wheras the other were; a Great Number of them forced to ffly into fforraigne Lands for shelter or else might haue perrished in prisons; and there poor Creatures Indured many of them such hard shipps (as is well knowne to some of vs as makes our harts still ake to Remember;

Wee some of vs knew m^r Parker doctor Ames and m^r Jacob in holland when they sojourned for a time in Leyden and all three for a time boarded together and had theire victualls dressed by some of our acquaintance and then they liued Comfortable and then they were prouided for as became theire p^rsons; and after m^r Jacob Returned; and m^r Parker was att Amsterdam; wher hee printed some of his bookes and m^r Ames disposed of himselfe to other places It was Not worse with him and some of vs well know how it fared then with many¹ precious Christians in diuers times and places, To speake the truth, the professors in England though many of them suffered much att the hands of the prelates yett they had a Great advantage of the Separatists for the separatists had not onely the Prelates and theire faction to Incomter with and what hard² measure they mett with att theire hands aboue the other doth sufficiently appeer by what is before declared. But alsoe they must Indure the frownes and many times the sharp Invictiues of the forward minnesters against them, both in publicke & private and what Influences they had vpon the sperritts of the people is well enough knowne alsoe by Reason heerof the Minnesters in fforraigne Countryes did looke awry att them when they would Giue healp and Countenance to the other;

Indeed it seemes they haue somtimes suffered much hardnes in the Low Countryes if that be true that is Reported of such a man as m^r Ainsworth that hee should liue for some time with 9³ pence a weeke; To which is Replyed by another That if people suffered him to Liue on 9 pence a weeke with Rootes boyled either the people were

¹ Here "diuers" is crossed out.

² Altered from "harder."

³ Here "lb" is interlined and crossed out.

growne extream low in estate or the Groweth of their Godlines was Come to a very low ebbe [71]

Ancient men

The truth is their Condition for the most p^rte (was for some time) very low and hard it was with them as if it should be Related would hardly be beleived and noe Maruell for many of them had lien Longe in prisons and then were banished into Newfoundland; where they were abused and att Last Came into the Lowcountrys and wanting many trades frinds or acquaintances and Languages to¹ healep themselves how Could it be otherwise The Report of m^r Ainsworth² was Neare those times when hee was Newly Come out of Ireland with others poore and being a single younge man and very Studious was Content with a little and yett to take of the Aspersion from the people in that p^rticulare³ The Cheiffe and true Reason therof is Mistaken for hee was a very Modest & bashfull man and Concealed his wants from others vntill some suspected how it was with him; and prest him to see how it was and after it was knowne such as were able mended his Condition and when hee was Married afterwards hee and his family were Comfortable⁴ provided for; But wee haue said enough of these thinges; they had few frinds to Comfort them nor any Arme of fflesh to support them and if in some things they were to Ridged they are Rather to be pittied Considering their times and sufferings then to be blasted with Reproach to posteritie;

Young men

Was that Browne that fell away and⁵ Made Apostacye the first Inventor and beginer of this waye

Ancient men

Noe verily for as one answares this question very well in a printed book almost forty yeers agoe; that the prophetts apostles and euan-gelests haue in their Authentick writings layed downe the Ground therof; and vpon that Ground is their building Reared vp and surely settled morouer many of the Martires both former and latter haue Maintained it as is to be seen in the acts and Monuments of the Church; alsoe in the dayes of Queen Elizabeth there was a Separated Church wherof m^r ffitts was Pastour; and another before that in the time of Queen Mary of which m^r Rough was Pastour or

¹ Here the letters "th" are crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Here "m^r" is crossed out.

⁴ Here "and" is crossed out.

⁵ Here something is crossed out.

Teacher and Cudbert Simson a deacon whoe exercised amongst themselves as other ordinances soe Church censures as excommunication &c: and professed and practised that Cause before m^r Browne wrote for it; But hee being one that afterwards wrote for it They that first hatched the Name of Puritans¹ and bestowed it on the Godly professors that desired Reformation they likewise out of the same store house would Needs bestow this New Liurey vpon others that Neuer would owne it, Nor had Reason soe to doe m^r Cotton likewise in his² in his Answere to M^r Bayley page four; shewes how in the year³ 1567⁴ there were an hundred p^rsons whoe Refused the Comon littergye and the Congregations attending thervnto and vsed prayers and preaching and the⁵ Sacrements amongst them selues wherof 14 or: 15: were sent to prison of whom the Cheiffest was m^r Smith m^r Nixon James Ireland Robert hawkins Thomas Bowland⁶ and Richard Morecroft; and these pleaded their Separation before the Lord Mayor Bishop Sands and other Comissioners⁷ on June 20 1567 about 80 yeers agoen being Many yeers before Brown* [72]

* diuers other Instance might be Giuen;

But if wee mistake Not m^r Browne is accounted by some of Good Note to be the Inventor of that way which is Called Brownisme from whom the sect took it[s] Name more ouer it is said by such of Note as aforesaid; That it is not Gods vsual Man[or] of dealing to leaue any of the first publishers or Restorers of any truth of his to such fearfull Apostacye

Young men

Possibly this spech might arise from a Comon Receiued opinion But Reuerend m^r Cotton in his Answere to m^r Bayley, saith the Backslideing of Browne from that way of Separation is a Just Reason why the Separatists may disclaime denomination from him and Refuse to be Called Brownest after his Name, and to speake with Reason (saith hee) if any be Justly to be Called Brownes[t] it is⁸

Ancient men

¹ Referring to the year 1564, Fuller said: "The English Bishops . . . began . . . urging the Clergy . . . to subscribe to the Liturgie, Ceremonies, and Discipline of the Church, and such as refused . . . were branded with the odious name of Puritanes, a name which in this notion first began in this year" (Church History, ix. i. § 66).

² Here the word "book" is interlined and crossed out.

³ Here "16" is crossed out.

⁴ This date is underscored twice.

⁵ Here "Sacrem" is crossed out.

⁶ Neal (History of the Puritans, 1754, i. 164) gives this name as "Rowland."

⁷ Here the words "and other Commissioners" are crossed out.

⁸ Here "owne" is crossed out.

onely such as Revoult from separation to formallitie and from thence to Prophanes Page: 5: *¹

* To which wee may adde that it is very Injurious to Call those after his Name whos[e] p'son they Neuer knew and whose writings (few if any of them) euer saw and whose errors and Backslideings they haue Constantly borne witnes against and what truthes they haue Receiued haue bin from the Light of Gods Sacred word Conveye[d] by other Godly Instruments vnto them though Browne may sometime haue professed some of the same thinges and Now fallen from the same as Many others haue done

Young men

Seing wee haue presumed thus farr to enquire into these ancients times (of you) and of the sufferings of the aforesaid p'sons wee would likewise Intreat you; tho neuer soe breiffly to tell vs somthing of the p'sons and Carriages of other emine[nt] men about those times or Imediately after as m^r ffancis Johnson m^r henery Ainswor[th] m^r John Smith m^r John Robinson m^r Richard Clifton;

Ancient men

heer are some in the Companie that knew them all familiarly whom wee shall desire to satisfy youer Request;

Those answered; wee shall doe it most willingly; for wee Can not but honour the memor[y] of the men for the Good that Not onely many others but wee our selues haue Receiued by them and their Minnistry for wee haue heard them all and liued vnder the minnistry of diuers of them for some yeers wee shall therfore speake of them in order breiffly;

M^r Johnson of whom somthing was spoken before; was Pastour of the Church of God att Amsterdam; a very Graue man hee was and an able Teacher; and was the most sollemne in all his adminestrations that wee haue seen any and especially in dispenceing the seales of the Couenant both baptismee and the Lords supper; and a Good disputant hee was wee heard m^r Smith vpon occasion say that hee was p'swaded noe men liueing were able to maintaine a Cause against those two men; meaning m^r Johnson and m^r Ainsworth if they h[ad] not the truth on their side; hee by Reason of many desentions that fell out in the Church and the subtilty of one of the Elders of the same) Came after Many yeer[s] to alter his Judgment about the Gou'ment of the Church and his practice ther-vpon which Caused a deuision amongst them but hee liued not

¹ Here a line and a half is crossed out.

many yeers after and died att Amsterdam after his Returne from Emden;

But hee is much spoken against for excommunicateing his brother Young men and his owne father and maintaineing his wifes Cause whoe was by his brother and others Reproued for her pride in Aparrell;

himself hath often made his owne defence; and others for him the Ancient men Church did oftens after long patience towards them and much paines taken with them [73] them excommunicated them for their vnreasonable and endles opposition and such thinges as did accompanie the same, and such was the Justice therof as hee could not but Consent therto; In our time; his wife was a Graue Matron and very modest both in her apparell and all her demenior; Reddy to any Good worke in her place and healpfull to many especially the poor; and an ornament to his calling Shee was a younge widdow when hee Married her and had bin a marchants wife by whom hee had a Good estate and was a Godly woman and because shee wore such apparell as shee had bin formerly vsed, too; which were Neither excessive nor Imodist, for their Cheiffest exceptions were against her wearing of some whalbone in the bodies & sleiues of her Gowne Corked shooes and other such like thinges as the Citizens of her Ranke then vsed to were; and although for offence sake shee and hee¹ were willing to Reforme the fashions of them soe farr as might be without spoyling of their Garments yett it would not Content them, except they Came full vp to their sise such was the strictnes or Ridgednes (as now the tearme Goes of some in those times as wee Can by experience and of our owne knowldge shew in other Instances wee shall for breiuity sake onely shew one;

Wee were in the Companie of a Godly man that had bin a long time prisoner att Norwich (for this Cause) and was by Judge Cooke sett att libertie² after Goeing into the Country hee viseted his frinds; and Returning that way againe to Goe into the low Countries by shipp att yarmouth and soe desired some of vs to turne in with him to the house of an ancient woman in the Citty whoe had bin very kind and healpfull to him in his sufferings shee knowing his voyce made him very welcome and those with him; but after some time of their entertainment being Reddy to depart shee Came vp

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here the words "by Judge Cooke sett at" are crossed out.

to him and felt of his band for her eyes were dim with age and p^rseiuing it was something stiffened with starch; shee was much displeased and Reproued him very sharply, fearing God would not prosper his Journey; yett the man was a plaine Country man Clad in Gray Russed without either welt or Gaurd (as the prouerbe is) and the band hee wore scarce worth thripence made of theire owne home spinning; and hee was Godly and humble as hee was plaine what would such professors if they were Now liueing say to the excesse of our times;

M^r Henery Ainsworth

A man of a Thousand was Teacher of this Church of Amsterdam att the same time when m^r Johnson was Pastour; two worthy men they were and of exelent p^rtes; hee Continewed Constant in his Judgment and practice vnto his end in those things about the Church Gou^rment from which m^r Johnson swarued and fell; hee euer maintained Good Correspondence with m^r Robinson att Leyden and would Consult with him in all matters of waight both in theire differences and afterwards; A very learned man hee was and a Close student which much Impaired his health wee haue heard some eminent in the knowlidge of the Tounge of the vniversitie of Leyden say that they thought hee had not his better for the hebrew tounge¹ in the vniversitie Nor scarce in Europa hee was a man very Modest Amiable and sociable in his ordinary Course and Carriage of an Inocent and vnblamable life and Conversation of a meeke speritt and a Calme temper void of Pasion and Not ezely [74] and not ezely prouoked and yett hee would be something Smarte in his² style to his opposers in his publicke writings; att which wee that haue seen his Constant Carriage both in publicke desputes; and the Mannageing of all Church affaires and such like occurances haue somtimes Marueled; hee had an exelent Gift of teaching and opening the Scriptures and thinges did fflow from him with that ffacilitie plaines and sweetnes as did much affect the hearers; hee was powerfull and profound in doctrine although his voyce was not stronge; and had this exelencye aboue many that hee was most Reddy and pregnant in the Scriptures as if the booke of God had

¹ Perhaps "tongues."

² Here "stil" is crossed out.

bin written in his hart; being as Reddy in his quotations; without tosing and turning his booke as if they had lyen open before his eyes and Celdome mising a word in the Citeing of any place; Teaching not onely the word and doctrine of God but in the words of God; and for the most p^rte in a Continewed Phraise and words of Scripture; hee vsed Great dexteritie and was Reddy in Comparing Scripture with Scripture with one an other; In a word the times and place in which hee liued were not worthy of ¹ such a man;

but wee find that hee is taxed in a book writt by George Johnson Younge men
with apostacye and to be a man pleaser &c

whoe Can escape the Scorge of tongues Christ himself Could not Ancient men
doe it when hee was heer vpon earth although there was noe Guile found in his mouth; Nor Moses although hee was the Meekest man in the earth; for man pleasing they that taxe him because hee Concurred against theire violent and endles decentions about the former matters and for his appostacye this was all the Matter when hee was a younge Man before hee Came out of England hee att the p^rswation of some of his Godly frinds went once or twise to heare a Godly Minnester preach and this was the Great matter of Apostacye for which ² those violent men thought him worthy to be deposed from his place and for which they thus Charge him; and truly heerin they may worthyly beare the Name of Ridged &c:

M^r John Smith

Was an eminent Man ³ in his time and a Good preacher and of other good p^rtes but his Inconstancy and vnstable Judgment and being soe suddainly Carryed away with thinges did soone ouer throw him; yett wee haue some of vs heard him vse this speech (truely said hee) wee being Now Come into a place of libertie are in Great danger if wee look not ⁴ well to our wayes, for wee are like men sett vpon the Iyce and therfore may ezely slyde and fall; But in this example it appeers it is an ezier matter to Giue Good Councell then to follow it; to foresee danger then to preuent it which made the prophett to say *o Lord the way of a man is Not in himself Neither*

¹ Here "him" is crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Here the words "was an eminent man" are crossed out.

⁴ Here the words "to it" are crossed out.

is it in man to walk; and to direct his stepps Jeremiah 10: 23: hee was sometimes Pastour to a Companie of honest & Godly men which Came with him out of England and pitched att Amsterdam hee first fell into some errours about the Scriptures, and soe into some opposition with m^r Johnson whoe had bine his tutor and the Church there; but hee was Convinced of them by the paines and faithfulness of m^r Johnson and m^r Ainsworth and Revoaked them but afterwards was drawne away by some of the ¹ duch Annabaptists whoe finding him to be a good Scoller and vnsettled they ezely misled ² the most of his people and other of them Scattered away hee liued Not many yeers after but died there of a Consumption to which hee was Inclined before hee Came out of England; his and his peoples Condition may be an object of pittie for after times; [75]

Mr John Robinson

Was Pastour of that famous Church of Leyden in holland a man not ezely to be parraleeled for all things whose singular vertues; wee shall not take vpon vs heer to describe neither Need wee for they soe well are knowne both by frinds and enimises, as hee was a man learned and of a solled Judgment and of a quick and sharp witt; soe was hee alsoe of a tender Consience and very Cinceire in all his wayes a hater of hipocresie and desimulation and would be very plaine with his best frinds hee was very Curteous affible and sociable in his Conversation and towards his owne people especially; hee was an accute and exact disputant very quick and Reddy, and had much bickering with the Arminnians whoe stood more in feare of him then any of the vniversitie hee was Neuer satisfied in himself vntill hee had serched any Cause or argument hee had to deale in thoroughly and to the botome; and wee haue heard him somtimes say to his familiars that many times both in writing and disputation hee knew hee had sufficiently answered ³ others but many times not himself and was euer desirous of any light and the more able Learned and holy the p^rsons were the more hee desired to Confer and Reason with them; hee was very ⁴ profittable in his minnistry and Comfortable

¹ Here "Church" is crossed out.

² Here "him" is crossed out.

³ Here "answered" is crossed out.

⁴ Here the words "Learned in" are crossed out.

to his people hee was much beloued of them and as loueing was hee vnto them; and Intirely sought their good for soule and body; In a word hee was much esteemed and Reuerenced of all that knew him and his abillities both of frinds and strangers; but wee Resolued to be breife in this matter; leaueing you to better and more Large Information heerin from others

Mr Richard Clifton

Was a Graue and fatherly old man when hee Came first into holland haueing a Great white beard and pittie it was that such a Reuerend old man should be forced to leaue his Country and att those yeers to Goe into exile but it was his Lott and hee bore it patiently much good had hee done in the Country where hee liued and Converted many to God by his faithfull and painfull minnistry both in preaching and Cattechising sound and orthodox hee alwaies was and soe Continewed to his end; hee belonged to the Church att Leyden but being settled att Amsterdam and thus aged hee was loth to Remoue any more; and soe when they Remoued hee was dismissed to them there and there Remained vntill hee died; thus wee haue breifly satisfyed your desire;

Wee are very thankfull to you for your paines wee p^rseieue God Young men
Raiseth vp exelent Instruments in all ages to Carry on his owne worke and the best of men haue their fayleings somtimes as wee see in these our times and that there is noe new thinge vnder the sun; but before wee end this mater we desire you would say something of those two Churches that were soe longe in exile of whose Guids wee haue alreddy heard:

Truly there were in them many worthy men and if you had seen Ancient men
them in their bewty and order as wee haue don, you would haue bin much affected therewith wee dare say; Att Amsterdam; before their deuision and breach they were about three hundred Communicants and they had for their Pastour and Teacher those two eminent men before named and in our time four Graue men for Ruleing elders and three able and Godly men for deacons, one ancient widdow for a deacones whoe did them seruice many yeers though shee was sixty yeers of age when shee was Chosen shee honored her place and was an ornament to the Congregation shee vsually sate in a Convenient place in the Congregation; with a little birchen Rode in her hand;

and kept little Children in Great awe from disturbing the Congregation shee did frequently visitt the sicke and weake especially weomen and as there was need Called out maids and younge weomen to watch and doe them other healpes [76] as their Nessesitie did Require and if they were poor shee would Gather Relieffe for them of those that were able; or acquaint the deacons and shee was obeyed as a mother in Israell and an officer of Christ ¹

And for the Church of Leyden they were some times not much fewer in Number nor att all Inferior in able men though they had not soe many officers as the other for they had but one Ruling elder with their Pastour, a man well approued and of Great Integritie alsoe they had three able men for deacons; and that which was a Crowne vnto them they liued together in loue and peace all their dayes without any Considerable differences or any disturbance that Grew therby but such as was easely healed in loue; and soe they Continewed vntil with mutuall Consent they Remoued into New England; and what their Condition hath bine since some of you that are of their Children doe see and Can tell many worthy and able men there were in both places whoe liued and died in obscuritie in Respect of the world as priuate Christians yett were they precious in the eyes of the Lord and alsoe in the eyes of such as knew them whose vertues wee wish such of you as are their Children doe follow and Imitate

Young men

If wee may not be to tedious wee would Request to know one thinge More It is Comonly said that those of the separation hold none to be true Churches but their owne and Condemne all the Churches in the world besides which lyeth as a fowle blott vpon them yee euen by some heer in New England except they Can Remoue it;

Ancient men

It is a manifest Slaunder laid vpon them; for they hold all the Reformed Churches to be true Churches and euen the most Ridged of them haue euer don soe as appeers by their apollogies and other writings and wee our selues some of vs know of much entercomunion that diuers haue held with them Reciprocally not onely with the duche and french but euen with the scotch whoe are not of the best mould yee and with the Lutherens alsoe; and wee beleieue they haue Gon as farr heerin; both in Judgment and practice as any of the Churches in New England doe or Can doe to deale faithfully and

¹ Here something is crossed out.

beare witnes against theire Corruptions; haueing thus farr satisfyed all your demaunds wee shall heer break of this Conference for this time desireing the Lord to make you to Grow¹ vp in Grace and wisdom and the true feare of God that in all faithfulness and humilitie you may serue him in your Generations

Gentlemen wee humbly thank you for your paines with vs and Young men
Respect vnto vs, and doe further Craue that vpon any fitt occasions wee may haue accesse vnto you for any further Information and heerwith also humbly take our leaue;

Finis²

¹ Here "vp" is crossed out.

² The verso of p. [76] is blank. This is the end of Morton's entries, except a few words found on a later page: see p. 247, below.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

VOLUME I

PART II¹

[1²] A further account of matters in & relating to the church at Plymouth from the yeare 1667: untill 1697, inclusively.

It being desired in page 59: ³ in the conclusion of the Ecclesiaticall History of this church, by that Godly Brother, M^r Nathaniel Morton, that Elders & Bretheren succeeding would be carefull to commit to writing what might occurre in their day for the Glory of God & good of after times, these following Pages ⁴ shall truly & faithfully upon certaine knowledge declare what was transacted in this chh ⁵ for the space of about thirty yeares soe far as may be Judged meet for edification.

M^r Morton in his foregoing Narrative truly declares, that after

¹ Part ii contains 18 leaves, or 36 pages, of which two (the verso of pp. [31] and [34]) are blank. The pages measure 11¼ inches in height by 7½ inches in width. Like Parts i, iii, and iv, Part ii is a portion of the original vellum-covered volume, the leaves being the same size and the watermark identical.

Pp. [1-29] of the text, or pp. 142-184 of this volume, are wholly in the hand of the Rev. John Cotton, except three marginal entries — one on p. [8] of the text, the other two on p. [20] of the text: see pp. 152 note 3, 170 note 1, 170 note 2, of this volume. Pp. [30-34], in an unknown hand, were originally not numbered, but page-numbers have been inserted in a later hand in pencil.

Mr. Cotton's account was written about 1697 or 1698: see pp. 174, 181, below.

Part ii is printed in the Mayflower Descendant, iv. 212-217, v. 214-217, viii. 214-217, xii. 26-28, xiii. 72-75, 152-158, xiv. 101-106, 188-192, xv. 21-23, 223-227, xvi. 53-57.

² The upper corners of pp. [1-29] of the text are in places worn away, leaving the page-numbers in some cases obscure.

³ The reference is to p. [59] of the text of Part i, or p. 113 of this volume.

⁴ Here something is crossed out. The reference is to pp. [1-29] of the text, or pp. 142-184 of this volume.

⁵ Mr. Cotton almost invariably writes "chh" for "church," but the word is always here printed "chh."

A further account of matters in & relating to, the church at Plymouth
from the year 1662, untill 1697, inclusive.
It being desired in page 59. in the conclusion of the Ecclesiastical History of this
church by that goodly Brother, Mr Nathaniel Morton, that Elders & Brethren meeting
would be careful to commit to writing what might occur in their day for the
glory of God & good of after times, these following Pages shall truly & faithfully
set down what was transacted in this Church for the space
of about thirty years, so far as may be judged meet for Edition.

Mr Morton in his foregoing Narrative truly declares, that after the
departure of that blessed man of God Mr Reyner from them
whom he had faithfully served for the space of about eighteen
years in the office of Teacher & the still remaining sundry years
he laboured of a Teaching, to send in a suitable supply for their souls
extraordinary prayer to send in a suitable ministry that some time passed
in which time sundry despicable ministers, but Divine providence favoured
in preaching the word of God to them, It pleased God so to dispose
not the betterment of any one of them, It pleased God so to dispose
of Mr ~~Reyner~~ that the Church gave a call to Mr John
Cotton to come & preach to them, who by reason of his engagement to
another people, could not at present accept of that call, but the
Church, consisting of settled ministers, they did in the year
following in July, renew their former call to him to which he
gave his consent & accordingly removed himself & family to
Plymouth, where they arrived on November, 30. 1662.
There were then resident in the Place forty seven other members
of the church, who were then resident in the Place, that were persuaded to other

1662.

the departure of that blessed Man of God M^r Reyner from them whom he had faithfully served¹ for the space of about eighteen yeares in the office of a Teacher, & the chh remaining sundry yeares destitute of a Teaching Elder looking up to God constantly in ordinary & extraordinary prayer to send in a sutable supply for their soules, in which time sundry desireable ministers spent some time successively in preaching the word of God to them, but divine providence favoured not the settlement of any one of them, It pleased God soe to dispose² in September³ 1666, that the church gave a call to M^r John Cotton to come & preach to them, who by reason of his then engagement to another people, could not at present accept of that call, but the chh continuing destitute of settled ministry, they did in the yeare following in July, renew their former call to him, to which He gave his consent & accordingly removed himselfe & family to Plymouth, where they arrived on November, 30: 1667:

There were then resident in the Place forty seven chh-membe[rs] 1667: in full communion, besides divers that were removed to other places, who upon the settlement of the ministry were called upon by the Elders to take their dismissions respectively to the severall ches where their settled abode was, this chh declaring it to be the duty of christians to be under the watch of those ches where they live, this motion was readily complied with by all concerned.

Now inasmuch as the death of saints is pretious in the eyes of God, & God hath said, the Righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance an account shall be given of the deaths of such espetially who were of good esteem in the chh of God:

The first breach God made in the chh within the time above said was the death of Gabriel Fallowell, aged above 80 yeares, a very pretious, lively christian, one who maintained much communion with God day & night, he dyed, December, 28: 1667.⁴

In 1668: two members were admitted into the chh: & all that was 1668: transacted in the chh in this yeare was their discourse & conclusion to⁵ renew their call of M^r Cotton & to declare to him their purpose

¹ Here a word, perhaps "for," is crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Here "September" is crossed out.

⁴ The third figure in this date has been altered.

⁵ Here a word is crossed out.

to establish him in office in the spring, the Lord disposing all our hearts to unite therein.

1669

on the first of march dyed, John Dunham, the godly & well esteemed Deacon of the chh, one of 80 yeares old.

In this April dyed blessed M^r Reyner then Pastor of the chh at Dover ¹

The chh appointed, April, 7: 1669: & kept it as a day of Fasting & Prayer, wherein to beg Gods prescence to be with them in directing to & in the choice of their Teaching officer.

Immediately after which the church voted to set apart a day to elect & ordaine M^r Cotton to be their Pastor, & agreed that June, 30: should be the day, which was attended, He being dismissed from Boston old ² church & Joyned to this ³ chh some weekes before;

The ches present at this ordination (by the desire of this chh) by the[ir] Elders & messengers were Barnstable, Marshfeild, Weymouth & Duxbu[ry:] Elder Thomas Cushman gave the charge & the aged m^r [2] John Howland was appointed by the chh to Joyne in imposition of hands; the Reverend m^r Walley made a solemne Prayer before ordination & the Revd M^r Torrey gave the right hand of fellowship in the Name of the ches, after.

The Ruling Elder with the Pastor made it their first spetiall worke together to passe through the whole towne from ⁴ family to family to enquire into the state of soules & according as they found the frames either of the children of the chh or others, soe they applyed counsells, admonitions, exhortations & encouragements, which service was attended with a blessing, for in divers with whom God had begun his work, it prevailed to stirre them up to lay hold of the covenant, & others were awakened more seriously to attend upon the meanes of grace & to minde the concernments of their soules, & practice family-prayer more constantly, the work of God seemed in those dayes to have a considerable reviving.

The chh having not then a Deacon, the Elders called upon them to choose some to that office; Accordingly, after a chh-meeting in Private some being Nominated, every brother speaking his minde

¹ This sentence is written in the margin.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Altered from "the."

⁴ Here "place" is crossed out.

man by man, on August, 1: Robert Finney & Ephraim Morton were chosen Deacons in the publick Assembly on the Sabbath, & then ordained by the Elders.

In January, the chh agreed to begin monethly church-meetings for conference, which were constantly attended for many yeares, & much good attended that exercise; Also in November, began the Catechizing of the children by the Pastor, (the Elder also accompanying him therein constantly) once a fortnight, the males at one time & the females at the other: the catechisme then used was M^r Perkins.

The members admitted to full Communion in this yeare were twenty & seven; the practice was for men¹ orally to make confession of faith & a declaration of their experiences of a worke of grace in the prescence of the whole congregation, having bin examined & heard before by the Elders in private & then stood propounded in publick for 2 or 3 weekes ordinarily; & the relations of the woemen being written in private from their mouths, were read in publick by the Pastor & the Elders gave Testimony that their knowledge was competent, this was the ordinary way of Admission of members at their first entrance, but if any members came from other places & had letters of Dismission they were accepted by us upon that Testimoniall & nothing further required of them.

The Lords supper was administred 4 times in this yeare, the first of which was on August, 29:

The children Baptised this yeare, 48:

It pleased God heavily to afflict this chh & people by the Death of Capt Thomas Southworth, of whom Honourable mention is made in the foregoing Narrative, & that most deservedly; He was a great Pillar in this chh, & in the dayes of blessed m^r Reyner, after the death of Elder Brewster (whose Name is here very² pretious & ever will be soe) [3] when the chh had agitations about the choice of a Ruling Elder, this M^r Southworth was Judged by many of the chh a very sutable man for that place, yet it was wisely foreseen by Govr Bradford that the necessity of the Commonwealth would doubtlesse call for the improvement of his Talent in the magistracy, & soe it prooved, for immediately upon the death of that Honourable Govr,

¹ Here some words, perhaps "to make," are crossed out.

² Written above "soe," crossed out.

he was chosen a magistrate & soe continued to his death, There were other Bretheren that did exercise their gifts for ædification of the chh in the vacancy of the ministry, yet such was the desireablenesse & excellling of his Gifts & graces that for divers yeares together he was expetially singled out by the chh to carry on the publick worship, one part of the Sabbath, Elder Cushman ordinarily spending the forenoone & Mr Squthworth¹ the afternoone; His Death was on December 8: (about 53 yeares old) after a moneths sicknesse; His death was much lamented & is to this day, he was loved & feared & of such a conversation as commanded both. The chh kept a day of prayer for his life, Dec. 1: but his time was come to dye.

1670

In 1670 fourteen members were admitted into the chh, 39 children were baptized, & the Lords supper was 8 times.

In the spring the chh set apart & observed a day of Thanksgiving for the settlement of Gods ordinances after soe long a vacancy, & the good successe of the Gospel amongst the[m.]

A child of this chh who had bin here baptized, removing to Swanzey was rebaptized by the Pastor there, which the chh being informed of, did unanimously declare it to be matter of offence, & sent letters to those concerned in that action to signify that such a practice would be a barre to our Ecclesiasticall communion & desired they would doe soe noe more.

Some persons, a brother & 2 sisters that had formerly walked with this chh being now removed & not owning their chh-relation, the chh agreed & it was openly declared by the Elder in the name of the chh, that wee esteemed them noe longer to be members of us.

In this yeare, 70: m^r Richard Bourne of Sandwich sent to the chh for messengers to take notice of the fitnessse of sundry Indians to gather into a chh at Mashpau, the Pastor, Elder & Secretary Morton were sent thither, Elders & messengers of many other ches were there also, the Indians after confessions etc were gathered into a chh, M^r Bourne chosen & ordained their Pastor, all the ches present approoveing thereof. old m^r Eliot & our Pastor laid on hands.²

1671

In 1671 seventeen members were admitted, 25 children baptized, the Lords supper was 10 times.

Some viz. a brother & sister having sold liquors to the Indians

¹ Here "in" is crossed out.

² This paragraph is written in the margin.

were Admonished, & also a child of the chh for morall scandall, this chh ever practising discipline to the chh-seed when adult.

In 1672, six members were admitted, 13 children Baptized, the 1672 Lords supper was 8 times.

on February, 24: dyed M^r John Howland in his eightieth yeare, he was a good old disciple, & had bin sometime a magistrate here, a plaine-hearted christian

In 1673; was a very awfull frowne of God upon this chh & colony 1673 in the death of m^r Thomas Prince the Governour in the 73d yeare of his Age: when this colony was in a hazardous condition upon the death of Govr Bradford, the lott was cast upon m^r Princ[e] [4] to be his successour, God made him a repairer of breaches & a meanes to setle those shakings that were then threatning, he was excellently qualifed for the office of a Governour, he had a countenance full of majesty & therein as well as otherwise was a Terroure to evill doers, he was very amiable & pleasant in his whole conversation & highly esteemed of the saints & acknowledged by all; In the time of his sicknesse the chh sought God by Fasting & Prayer, but God would not be intreated any longer to spare him, but he dyed on March, 29: & was honourably interred, April, 8:

Six more chh-members dyed in this yeare.¹

The Lords supper in this yeare was seven times, but one member admitted, 14 children baptized.

In 1674: the Lords supper was 11 times, one member admitted, 1674 17 children baptized:

Discipline viz Admonition was administred to a chh-child for sin & two ² in full communion upon confession of what was offensive were forgiven without any censure.

In March, 1675: the church of Eastham sent to our chh for mes- 1675 sengers to be with them at their ordination of M^r Samuel Treat to be their Pastor, the chh sent the Pastor, Elder & Deacon Finney, who attended that service, March, 17:

Lords supper was six times; 8 children were baptized.

Warr with the Indians breaking forth, the chh set apart July, 21: to be kept as a day of Humiliation, Another on January, 5: Another, February, 2: because of war & sicknesse.

¹ These words are written in the margin.

² Written above "one," crossed out.

1676

In 1676: the Lords supper was six times, five members were admitted, 24 children were baptized.

The war continuïng & also sickness, the chh set apart April, 19: for fasting & prayer, & also May, 30: for the same grounds.

The Generall Court in June, being sensible of the heavy hand of God upon the country in the continuance of war with the heathen appointed a day of Humiliation to be kept, 22 day of it & added thereto a solemne motion to all our ches to renew a covenant engagement to God for Reformation of all provoking evils. The chh attended that day of Prayer & then the Elders appointed a chh-meeting to be on June, 29: The church then all met; our chh meetings were ever begun & ended¹ with prayer, (the Pastor ordinarily beginning & the Elder concluding therewith) After Prayer for Gods direction & blessing in soe solemne a matter, A church-covenant was read, & the chh voted that it should be left upon record as that which they did owne to be the substance of that Covenant which their Fathers entered into at the first gathering of the church, which was in these words following, [5]

In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ & in obedience to his holy will & divine ordinances.

Wee being by the most wise & good providence of God brought together in this place & desirous to unite our selves into one congregation or church under the Lord Jesus Christ our Head, that it may be in such sort as becometh all those whom He hath redeemed & sanctified to himselfe, wee doe hereby solemnly & religiously (as in his most holy prescence) avouch the Lord Jehovah the only true God to be our God & the God of ours & doe promise & binde ourselves to walke in all our wayes according to the Rule of the Gospel & in all sincere conformity to His holy ordinances & in mutuall love to & watchfullnesse over one another, depending wholly & only upon the Lord our God to enable us by his grace hereunto.

Then serious Enquiry was made, in what particulars there might be found amongst us a violation of this holy covenant & any² unanswerable walking thereunto?

Then followed a Proposall, whether wee were all willing to renew our Covenant for Reformation?

¹ Altered from "attended."

² Here a word is crossed out.

The Aged, godly Elder spake his minde particularly to these things, & then the Pastor (whom the Elder had before desired to draw up an Instrument sutable to the purpose) read a paper¹ in which were mentioned, wherein our violations of covenant had bin & our Engagement for Reformation was contained, which the whole chh did well approve of, & concluded as soone as wee could conveniently to appoint a day of Humiliation wherein to attend Renewall of Covenant; Further, appointing July, 10: for all the children of the chh to come together before the Elders on that account, which they very readily & universally did at the time appointed; The Elders then asked them, 1: whether they did owne their interest in the covenant of their fathers? to which, they all freely answered in the Affirmative. 2: Whether they would indeavour to stirre up themselves in the use of all due meanes for obtaining the good & blessings of that covenant? then the Pastor read a Paper, containing many evils the guilt of which might be found amongst them & also their desires & promise of Reformation to be visibly manifested, they all manifested a compliance therewith, & the compleating of the matter was reserved till the day of Humiliation. The chh set apart July, 18: for this service; the morning was spent in prayer & preaching by the Pastor, whose Text was in Psal: 56: 12: 13: in the Afternoone the Elder began with Prayer & was large in it, then wee proceeded to a renewall of Covenant, first the Paper was read that concerned the members in full communion, in these words following. [6]

Whereas the Holy & Righteous God hath many wayes in yeares lately past changed the course of his favourable dispensations towards us & manifested sad signes of his displeasure against us, wee desire to be deeply humbled in his sight under his mighty hand & to reflect upon our owne hearts & ways with serious Consideration, whereby wee see abundant cause to judge our selves as being guilty of many evils for which the Lord may Justly be provoked to avenge the quarrell of his Covenant upon us. In particular, Wee doe acknowledge wee have greatly lost our first love to & pretious esteem² of the Gospel & ordinances of the Lord Jesus, which hath too evidently appeared, partly in our remisnesse in coming to ordinances, partly in our listlesse & sluggish attendance upon them, as also by our barrenesse & unfruitfullnesse under meanes of grace, neither have wee maintained & kept up the life & power of

¹ Here a word, doubtless "where," is crossed out.

² Altered from "esteem."

Godlynesse as wee ought to have done, wee have also polluted the Holy Sabbaths of the Lord our God, as other wayes, soe very much by impertinent communication thereupon, yea the loosnesse of our conversations soe unbecoming the Gospel of Christ is a Testimony against us that wee have backslidden from the Lord, wee have sadly mispent our pretious time & omitted our Duty to God & to our relations by frequenting such places & companyes not becoming christians to delight in, wee have too much allowed our selves in unbrotherly chidings & contendings one with another & have let the sun goe downe too often upon our wrath, wee have bin too unfaithfull in our words & promises & ingagements one unto another, having not considered one another to provoke to love & good workes, nor watched over the soules one of another, in faithfull reproofes for sin as ought to have bin & in the use of all other meanes for our mutuall ædification in faith & holinesse; Wee have also too much set our hearts upon the world & creature-comforts & vanities & have too much conformed to the world; wee have also bin too remisse in family-instruction & government, not minding the good of the soules of those committed to our charge as wee ought to have done; And although God hath greatly afflicted us for our many swervings from him, yet wee have not bin soe affected with his heavy hand as to reforme those evils for which he hath bin contending with us.

For these & other evils that might be mentioned, wee desire to lye in the dust before God & to abhorre our selves & unfeignedly to repent in his sight & humbly to acknowledge that God is Just & righteous in all the evils wee have bin visited with, yea that He hath punished us far lesse then our iniquities doe deserve; And wee doe in the presence of God & of his Holy Angels professe our sincere desires that these & all other evils in our hearts & lives may be reformed, And doe therefore renew an holy covenant with the Lord our God & one with another this day, hereby solemnly engaging our selves in the strength of divine grace (without which [7] wee can doe nothing) to put forth our utmost endeavors for a thorough Reformation of evill both in our selves & others in our severall capacities according to the relations that are upon us towards God & one unto another, & also to walke together before God in a professed subiection to all his holy ordinances according to the Rule of the Gospel & in Brotherly love & holy watchfullnesse to the mutuall succour & building up of one another in the faith & fellowship of the Lord Jesus.

This being read, the church was called upon to manifest their consent thereunto by standing up, which all both Elders & Bretheren & sisters did.

The Pastor then immediately spake to all the children of this chh (& also of any other ches that were living among us) & read a Paper unto them, which here followeth.

Seeing the Providence of God is soe afflicting at this day, & the weight of Gods anger falls most heavily upon those of our generation, many young persons falling by the rage of the enemy & by the immediate hand of God in sicknesse, Wee have therefore great cause to Judge our selves as being guilty of many evils whereby wee have provoked the Lord God of our Fathers to write bitter things against us & make us possesse the iniquities of our youth, & doe owne that wee by our sins have had a deep hand in procuring these calamities & bringing downe the Judgments of God upon the land: In particular Wee have violated the holy covenant that God graciously made with us in our parents, & was sealed to us in Baptisme, in that wee have not hearkned to the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ calling upon us according to the termes of the Gospel to embrace him as our only Lord & saviour, but have stood at a distance from the son of God & refused to give him our hearts & affections which He alone is most worthy of, thereby greiving & vexing his Holy spirit & provoking him to turne our enemy & fight against us; Wee have also bin guilty of many transgressions of the holy & righteous law of God, wee have not acknowledged the Lord God of our Fathers by walking in those good wayes wherein our fathers walked, wee are, though descended of a noble vine, yet become the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto God; wee have bin a proud generation, though wee are the sons & daughters of Zion, yet wee have bin haughty in spirit, in countenance, in garbe & fashion & have too much delighted to follow the vaine & sinfull customes of an evill world; wee have bin stubborne & rebellious against God & disobedient to our parents & too soone weary of the yoke of family-government which God hath set us under & ready to cast it off; wee have too much omitted & neglected to attend upon God in publick ordinances & have bin very dull & sloathfull & irreverent in the time of his worship & have profaned his holy Sabbaths by vaine & sinfull communication & many other wayes: [8] wee have bin unfaithfull to God & those he hath set over us, mispending much of our pretious time in idleness & sensuality;

And sundry of us whom God hath made heads of families, wee have not had that care & conscience to sanctify the Name of God in the duties of family-worship as wee ought to have done, neither have wee bin diligent in instructing & training up our children in the knowledge & feare of God, nor set before them such examples of holinesse, sobriety & temperance as wee should have done, but have suffered the interest of

religion which our fathers came into this wilderness for, greatly to decline in our hands. For these & many other evils that might be mentioned, wee desire to judge our selves before the Lord that wee may not be Judged of him, & to acknowledge that He is righteous in all the evils He hath brought upon us, & that it would be Just with God for our walking unworthy of his grace to discovenant us & cast us off from being his people; yet wee doe desire this day that all the evils of our hearts & wayes may be reformed, & doe solemnly in the presence of God & of his holy Angels, owne our interest in the covenant of the Lord God of our Fathers, & doe acknowledge that wee are bound & ingaged to serve him & him alone, & doe therefore desire humbly to looke up unto him & to implore his spetiall grace & the Asistance of his Holy Spirit to enable us to endeavour a thorough reformation of all our personall & family-evills, & to cause us to walke stedfastly in that good old way wherein alone wee may finde rest unto our soules.

This being read the Pastor called upon all the Adult children of the chh to manifest their consent thereunto, which they readily did all of them¹ both males & females by standing up.

These things are here recorded to be a standing wisse that wee & our children have chosen the Lord to be our God.

This was the transaction of this chh & all the ches in this colony of New Plymouth did in solemne² manner about this time renew their covenant with God on a day of Humiliation, & it is never to be forgotten, how ready God was to heare the cry of his poore people in the day of trouble & save them, for immediately upon this motion from authority & the ches hearkning thereunto, God turned his hand against our Heathen-enemies & subdued them wonderfully, & within a moneth after our solemne day, the great Head of all the mischeife, Philip, was slaine, & the Governour & magistrates the week before his death sent an order to all our ches to keep August, 12: as a day of publick Thanksgiving³ for the beginning of revenge upon the

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Apparently altered from "solomne."

³ The words "August 12: as a day of publick Thanksgiving" are underscored in red ink, an asterisk is inserted after "August," and in the margin is written in red ink: "*Qu. as to the correctness of this date. Saturday, *August 12th* was the day on which *Philip* was slain; and we learn from the co-temporary historians, *I. Mather & Hubbard*, that the Thanksgiving was on Thursday the 17th of that month. J. D." This marginal entry is presumably in the hand of John Davis (1761-1847; H. C. 1781).

enemy, & on that very day, soone after the publick worship was ended, his Head was brought into Plymouth in great triumph, he being slaine 2 or 3 dayes before, soe that in the day of our praises our eyes saw the salvation of God, a strong engagement to us to be carefull to pay our vowes made to the most High in the days of distre[ss.] [9]

The chh set apart September, 14: for Humiliation on account of the great sicknesse & mortality in this towne & many other places & to intreat Gods perfecting the mercy in deliverance from the heathen.

A child of the chh having fallen into sin & not manifesting Repentance but the contrary was cut off from his relation, which God blessed for good to his soule & he was afterward admitted into full communion with the chh:

The chh appointed & kept January, 31: in Fasting & Prayer on¹ the account of sicknesses & for other weighty causes.

January, 28: the Sabbath before this Fast, the Elders desired the chh to stay after the publick worship was ended & told them, there were rumors as if some of the bretheren walked disorderly, in sitting too long together in publick houses & with vaine company & drinking, it was therefore propounded in order to the healing of that evill & unanimously consented to by the whole chh, that they would all take themselves bound in case they saw or heard of any such carriage in any of the chh for the future, to demand a reason of the party why he soe did, & that wee would satisfy the demands of each other in such a case, & if any did not give satisfying answers to such sober, christian demands, it should be accounted Just matter of offence; The elders also then propounded that due care might be taken of the children of the chh, that they may not transgresse in this kinde.

Seven chh-members dyed this yeare, all sisters, one of them was aged Katherine Fallowell, the Relict of Gabriel, a very pretious saint, fourescore yeares old, a widow indeed.²

In 1677: the Lords supper was 11 times, three members were 1677: admitted, 14 children were baptized.

The chh set apart April, 26: to be kept as a day of Thanksgiving for peace, health, supplyes of corne & provision by contribution from Connecticott & from Dublin in Ireland.

¹ Apparently altered from "for."

² This sentence is written in the margin.

A Brother was laid under the highest censure, & upon his repentance was againe reconciled to the chh the yeare afte[r.]

August, 8: the chh condescended soe far as to take in private the relation of Samuel Cutbert, & the Elder the ne[xt] Sabbath declaring some part of it in the publick congregation, he was admitted to full communion.

At the same chh-meeting, it was agreed to renew the monethly chh-conference meetings, which by reason of the late wars had bin laid aside, that exercise began Aug. 30:

1678: In 1678: Lords supper was 9 times, one member was admitted, 11 children baptized:

A Brother dealt with for inordinate walking, did humble himselfe, & was rebuked & soe it was passed over.

The chh set apart March, 27: as a day of Fasting & prayer for continuance of peace healing the small pox, & for sundry of our ministers that were languishing & for other mercies.

September, 11: was kept on the same account, & also for saints under persecution, espetially then in Scotland, & that God would poure out a spirit of converting grace upon the rising generation.[10]

The chh kept November, 6: a day of publick Thanksgiving, for continuance of our Gospel & civill liberties, for preserving this place from the small pox, for a good harvest & peace as to the heathen:

A chh-child was at a private chh-meeting admonished for sin.

Catechizing was againe begun, December 4: in the Assemblies Catechisme.

Dec: 19: our brother M^r Samuel Fuller being called to preach at Midlebury did aske counsell of the chh, which motion they tooke into serious consideration till the next chh-meeting, which was on Jan: 16:¹ & then the chh did unanimously advise & encourage him to attend preaching to them as oft as he could, but not yet to remove his family, but waite a while to see what further encouragement God might give for his more setled attendance upon that service there.

A chh-child for evill words & carriages was then Admonished, who had formerly bin reprooved by the Elders more privately.

January, 12: the Pastor desired all the chh-seed who were heads of families to come to his house on Jan: 19: which they generally did & He then gave them sundry questions for them each man severally

¹ Perhaps "18."

to returne answers unto out of the scriptures; Hereby might be discerned what knowledge they had of Gods word; This Exercise was to be attended once in two moneths, & soe it was for divers yeares, not without a blessing & some good successe, for men of 30, 40, 50 yeares of age did attend & give their answers to those Divinity Questions in writing, then the Pastor having read all their answers, gave his owne to each Ques: & preached thereupon, the Elder always present & making the concluding prayer, & ordinarily many if not most of the chh were then present also.

In 1679: the Lords supper was 9 times, five members were admitted, 1679
19 children Baptized.

April, 16: was appointed by the chh for Fasting & Prayer for the rising generation & other mercies.

A sister publicly rebuked, humbling herselfe was pardoned, with solemn warning.

The chh of Rehoboth sent to us for messengers to attend their ordination of m^r Samuel Angier to be their Pastor, october, 15: the Pastor, Elder, m^r Fuller & Bro: Thomas Cushman were chosen & did attend that service.

The chh set apart February, 25: to be kept as a day of Thanksgiving publickly for all the mercies of the yeare, spirituall & temporall.

In 1680: Lords supper was 9 times, two members were admitted, 1680:
5 children baptized:

At a private chh-meeting, April 5: the chh voted that all the contribution of strangers should by the Deacons be given to the Pastor, & as a Testimony of their Love to him gave him six pounds & six shillings out of the Treasury of the chh: The chh gave twenty shillings out of Capt Willets legacy to the chh, to Elder Cushman.

Two of our members who lived at Swanzey sent to us to desire their dismissions to the chh there, the chh met Nov: 18: & agreed the Elders should in their name returne answer in the Negative, because the bretheren of Swanzey renounced communion with us or soe much as to be present when wee administred Infant-Baptisme & did rebaptize our chh-seed.

The chh of Duxbury sent to us to be present by our messengers at their ordination of m^r Ichabod Wiswall to be their Pastor, on November, 24: the Pastor, Ruling Elder, Deacon Finney & Deac: Morton were chosen & then present.

A chh-meeting was called by the Elders to be on February, 10: It was then moved to the chh by the Elder, that wee should doe well to set apart a day yea dayes for Humiliation for sundry weighty causes then named, the chh manifested their readynesse to comply therewith.

At this meeting the Elders told the chh, a Brother earnestly desired the Psalmes might be read in publick worship, because else he was incapable of practising that ordinance; The matter was much agitated, the Elder propounded to the chh to speake man by man, whether they Judged reading the Psalmes in order to singing was lawfull & that they could rest in the practice of it? The issue of the meeting was, the chh desired the Pastor that he would in his publick Preaching hold [11] forth from scripture the lawfullnesse & necessity of reading the Psalmes, which he exprest his willingnesse & purpose to doe, & till then the practise of reading might be ¹ deferred.

In 1681: the Lords supper was 9 times, one member admitted, 20 children baptized.

By reason of the death of the Honourable Governour, m^r Josiah Winslow on December, 18: preceeding, the Deputy Gov^r & magistrates being met at court appointed a Fast to be kept while they were sitting, March, 4: in our meeting house, they being present it was attended & carryed on by M^r Shove praying & preaching in the forenoone, m^r Arnold, m^r Wiswall & the Pastor praying afternoone.

A sister having sundry ill reports concerning her & also giving Just matter of offence to another sister of the chh, the Elders desired the chh after Lecture July, 13: to repaire to the Pastors house, where matters were discoursed upon, & not being issued the chh was desired that day fortnight at the conference meeting to attend that matter, the sabbath before which meeting the Pastor propounded to the chh in publick, that seeing the matter to be discoursed on the wednesday following was weighty & some danger lest the peace of the chh might be interrupted in our agitations, that therefore as many of the chh as could, would come together on the meeting-day morning & spend some houres in prayer for divine guidance & helpe, that the peace & holinesse of the chh might be preserved.

July, 27: many of the chh came together at the Pastors house in the morning, The Pastor & 4 bretheren prayed, then the conference-

¹ Here a word, perhaps "respired," is crossed out.



Josiah Winflond

*Engraved for The Colonial Society of Massachusetts
from the painting attributed to Robert Walther.*

worke as at other times was attended, then the matters of offence were¹ declared by the Person offended, & duly proved, there was in this meeting a very gracious appearance of God in answer to our prayers, not one harsh word in any of the chh one to another but a sweet & pleasant agreement from first to last: The Issue was, the offending sister manifesting (then & doing more the sabbath after) sorrow for what was amisse, the whole matter was satisfyingly issued.

September, 18: the Pastor from col:3:16: in preaching showed the lawfullnesse & necessity of reading the Psalmes in the congregation in order to singing;

october, 2: the Elders stayed the chh & desired to know their mindes, some of the bretheren rather desired the old custome of not reading might be continued, but the body of the chh declared for the lawfullnesse of reading & all would rest in the practice of it, Accordingly october, 9: the Elder began to read the Psalmes, & the Elder desiring the Pastor to expound the Psalme before singing, the Pastor did from that time constantly attend Exposition throughout the whole booke of Psalmes.

December 1: the chh kept publickly as a day of Thanksgiving for all the mercies of the yeare.

A brother formerly failing by intemperance was againe overtaken in the same kinde, he not attending the chh that Sabbath the Elders ordered him, he was appointed to come to a private chh-meeting, his expressions & behaviours were offensive to the chh then, soe they were the Sabbath after; He was then bidden to come the next Sabbath but he absented; The chh met in private & he not humbling himselfe, yet exercised patience towards him for 2 Sabbaths more, at the Sabbath when he was expected He came not to meeting & though sent for came not, for all which He was by the Elder in the name of the chh excommunicated, & within 2 years after upon his manifestation of repentance was reconciled to the chh:

A chh-child was admonished for selling liquors to the Indians.

The chh kept a publick Fast on Dec. 28: for persecuted saints in France.

A brother & sister were excommunicated for morall scandall & about a yeare after reconciled:

The chh kept a Fast at the Pastors house to humble ourselves for

¹ Written above a word crossed out.

outbreaking of sins among us, the Pastor prayed & preached, then Mr Fuller prayed in the forenoon; the Elder prayed & preached in the afternoone, then Secretary Morton prayed, & the Pastor concluded with prayer. [12]

while the chh was together in this day of Prayer, it was propounded to the chh, that wee should put up a Petition to the next court of Assistants to suppress soe much selling of strong drinke & lessen the number of ordinaryes etc ¹ the whole chh readily voted that the Petition prepared by the Elders & then read to them should be subscribed by the Elders in their Name & presented to the court, as the request of the chh for suppression of sensuality, which they did.

1682:

In 1682: the Lords supper was ten times, nine members were admitted, 24 children baptized.

A sister recommended to us from another chh, yet was not accepted to our communion, till some offence was removed betwixt her & a brother, which upon hearing by some Godly wise was comfortably issued, & she was accepted by the chh.

1683:

In 1683: the Lords supper was 9 times, six ² members were admitted, sixteen children were baptized.

Two chh-children were publickly admonished for sin. Also a child of the chh now living in another towne fallen into sinne the church agreed to send an Admonition to her which the Elders did in the name of the chh:

July, 15: the Elders propounded to the chh for a day of Fasting & prayer with reference to the drought, but before the day was fixed God sent a plentiful raine, & the chh kept July, 26: as a day of publick Thanksgiving for soe seasonable a mercy.

The chh of Barnstable sent to us for messengers to be present at the ordination of Mr Jonathan Russell to be their Pastor, on September, 19: because the Elder could not goe, the Pastor only & Capt Joseph Howland were sent & attended that service; the Pastor gave an account to the chh in publick of the carrying on of that affaire, & it was the constant practice in this chh, that their messengers to any other chh when returned gave an account of matters, though it is not often exprest in this Narrative.

The chh kept october, 18: a Fast, on account of the troubles of

¹ Perhaps "&."

² Here "times" is crossed out.

Gods people in England, & blastings with meldews here & in severall places great drought & floods that destroyed much of the harvest.

In 1684: the Lords supper was six times, two members were ad- 1684: mitted, sixteen children baptized:

Satan is always busy to make divisions in the ches, some differences fell out about this time in the chh, after some discourses wee agreed to call in helpe by way of councill from the ches of Taunton, Marshfeild, Duxbury, Bridgewater & Barnstable; the week before they came to us a day of Fasting & Prayer was kept at the Pastors house by the members of the chh. (though all could not then attend it) The councill met, March, 18: & saw with their eyes Gods blessing accompanying their endeavours to a gracious healing of his people & ending all matters of difference,

The chh set apart May, 2: to humble ourselves for any error in the late day of temptation, the Pastor in the forenoone prayed & preached then m^r Fuller prayed, in the afternoone the Elder prayed, Secretary Morton, Deacon Finney & Thomas Faunce: then letters were read from a chh-child to whom the chh had the yeare before sent an Admonition, manifesting her repentance, which the chh well accepted: Deacon Morton spake against the intemperance & long sitting at ordinaryes of some belonging to us, the Elders & bretheren gave their full Testimony against such irregularities with serious [13] warnings & desires that God would helpe us all to more care & watchfullnesse in our whole conversation: The 122 Psalme was then sung, the Pastor concluded all with Prayer, this was a very comfortable day of peace & love with unity among us.

June, 25: the Elder propounded to the chh, whether they would deale with offending chh-seed in private only? the answer of the bretheren generally was, that if the sin were publick they would continue their former practice in publick dealing for it.

This chh never allowed the Blessing to be dispensed at the conclusion of the publick worship on a sacrament morning till after the Lords supper was administred, some without were dissatisfyed at it, the Elder therefore at this meeting desired the chh to expresse their mindes about it there appeared noe forwardnesse to alter the custom, & some bretheren scrupled the lawfullnesse of it, soe there was then noe further discourse of that matter; but some time after it was consented to & practised.

A chh-child was publickly admonished for sin he then manifesting noe sense of it but too much of the contrary; but afterward God melted his heart & he became a profitable member of the chh:

Letters from the chh at the North river in Scittuate were sent to us for¹ messengers to be at the ordination of M^r Thomas Mighil whom they had chosen to be their Pastour; Elder Cushman & m^r Joseph Bradford were sent with the Pastour & were present at that solemnity, october, 15:

1685: In 1685: the Lords supper was ten times, 13 children were baptized.

May, 17: the Elders stayed the chh after the publick worship was ended & moved to sing Psal: 130: in another Translation, because in M^r Ainsworths Translation which wee sang, the tune was soe difficult few could follow it, the chh readily consented thereunto.

June, 28: dyed our Brother, M^r Nathaniel Morton in the 73^d year of his age, he was a sincere christian, very religiously tender & carefull in his observation of the sabbath day & of speaking truth, he had divers times spoken in publick to ædification in the absence of the minister & vacancy of the ministry; he took much paines to record the Dispensations of God as appeares in the former part of this book

A chh-child was admonished for scandalous words.

The chh kept November, 11, a publick Thanksgiving for this yeares mercies.

1686: In 1686: the Lords supper was 8 times, 14 members were admitted, 22 children baptized:

A sister of the chh upon her confession of some failings the chh was satisfyed with her; A child of the chh related to her, to whom the Elder spake some serious words brake forth into Passion & spake evill words reflecting upon the chh, at which the chh was offended with him, but for some weighty cause suspended any prosecution of him for the present for that offence.

Deacon Morton, November, 28: propounded to the chh the need of another Deacon, because old age with its sicknesses & infirmities had disenabled Deacon Finney from coming abroad or any further attendance upon that office, the Elders accepted the motion & desired the chh to ripen their thoughts for the next Sabbath; on December, 5: the church was stayed after publick worship; the Pastor

¹ Here "their" is crossed out.

prayed, then the Elders & bretheren man by man generally nominated for choice, the major part of the then voters were for Thomas Faunce [14] but divers of the bretheren being then absent the compleating of the Election was deferred till ther mindes also should be knowne.

Dec: 19: the chh was detained, & those bretheren before absent or who had not voted were called upon to nominate their choice for a Deacon, which they did & the major part was for Tho: Faunce, It was then declared, that if any Brother had ought to object why he should not be established in the office of a Deacon, they had their liberty to speake, not one objecting, it appeared, the chh was very unanimous in this motion, the Pastor then signified, they would proceed to his ordination the next comfortable Sabbath.

on December, 26: Bro: Thomas Faunce was ordained a Deacon of this church, the Pastor & Elder laid on hands, the Pastor then prayed & gave the charge & then the Elder prayed: His charge was given in these following words, which are inserted, because it may be of some use in like case in after times.

Since the Lord & this his chh have chosen you our Brother T: F: to the office of a Deacon in his house, wee doe therefore in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the chh, whom God the Father hath established to be his King in Zion, ordaine & set you apart to that spetiall office & imployment of a Deacon in this chh of God, & as from the Lord wee charge you to use the office of a Deacon well, & that you give diligent heed to all those rules in the Holy Word of God which set before you the nature & bounds of this your office & worke; And in particular, the Lord requireth of you, that you receive the offerings of the chh & congregation, & that you therewith conscionably serve all the Tables of the chh, distributing the offerings made to the Lord with Gospel-simplicity, not only to the ministry of this chh, but also with cheerfullnesse showing mercy to ¹ the Lords poore among us as they may have need thereof, according to what you are entrusted withall for such ends & purposes; Wee charge you in the Name of the Lord to be Faithfull herein, that you may stand in the great day of the appearing of the Lord Jesus, who will then before Angels and men call you to give an account of this your stewardship; And wee doe further from the Lord charge you, that you labour for the growth & exercise of all those graces that are requisite to furnish you with ability for a regular discharge of this weighty worke, which God now calles you unto, namely, wise-

¹ Here three or four words are crossed out.

dome, gravity, sincerity, freedome from guile, sobriety, spirituall & heavenly-mindednesse, not inordinately reaching after the things of the world, & that in your whole conversation you endeavour to be found blamelesse, exersising yourselfe alwayes to have a conscience void of offence towards God & ¹ man, providing for honest things not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men & that you rule your owne family well in the feare of God, & that you hold the mystery of the faith of the Gospel in a pure conscience; All which, if in the uprightness of your heart you labour in & for, you will then purchase unto your selfe [16] a good degree, & great boldnesse in the faith which is in Christ Jesus, which the Lord grant unto you for his mercies sake in Christ, who is our Lord & life, And for which great & gracious blessings let us further call upon the Holy Name of God.

Much of this charge was given in the ordination of the 2 former Deacons, Bro: Finney & Bro: Ephraim Morton, August, 1: 1669: but here are severall additions upon second thoughts.

1687: In 1687: the Lords supper was 9 times, five members were admitted, 23 children were baptized

March, 30: the chh set apart for fasting & prayer, on account of last yeares drought, uncomfortable winter, Epidemicall coughs & colds, the small pox in some places, & for all the mercies of the yeare etc.

The chh of Taunton sent letters to desire us to come to the ordination of m^r Samuel Danforth to be their Pastor; the Elder could not goe, the church chose & sent Bro: George Bonum & Bro: Nathaniel Wood to attend the Pastor to that solemnity, who did soe, September, 21:

The chh set apart october, 26: for a day of Thanksgiving for the mercies of the yeare, & for liberty to Gods people in O: E: by the Kings Proclamation. Deacon Finney dyed January, 7: being eighty yeares of age, a good old man.

1688: In 1688: the Lords supper was ten times, eleven members were admitted, 21 children were baptized.

The chh set apart, March, 7: a day of Fasting & prayer, on account of the measles in the winter & for the mercies of the yeare, & for continuance of & Gods blessing upon the meanes of grace.

A chh-child was admonished for sinne.

¹ Here "towards" is crossed out.

The chh set apart May, 3: as a Fast because of great drought, great¹ raine came that very day & after, soe ready is God to heare the prayers of his people.

June, 17: the Elders stayed the chh after the publick worship was ended & propounded to them, that seeing divers men who offered themselves to chh-fellowship were bashfull & of low voices & therefore not able to speak in publick to the edification of the congregation, nor to the hearing of the whole chh who should be satisfied before they vote for their Admission, it was expedient the bretheren should expresse what way they Judged best for helpe & satisfaction herein; the Elders & all the bretheren exprest themselves man by man & the generall conclusion of the body of the chh was, that those who could speak to hearing should soe doe in the whole congregation as formerly, but if the Elders Judged any man not capable thereof, they should call the chh together in private to heare such make their relations, but voting their Admission & covenanting with them should be deferred to be done in publick; sundry of the bretheren then desired that the Relations made by such might by the Elders be made knowne to the whole Congregation at their admission, as Judging it would be for the edification of others, which Proposall, though it was not opposed by any, yet was left undetermined, & as God directed in the particular cases, wee are to doe as should be Judged for the best.

June, 21: a private Fast was kept by about 50 of the chh on short warning, on behalfe of some of our bretheren & neighbours who were that day before the Councill at Boston, though not for evill doing, but by reason of an ill instrument, exposed to trouble. [16]

A child of the chh, living in another towne fallen into sin, the chh sent a letter of Admonition to her subscribed by the Elders in their Name.

The chh set apart october, 30: to be a fast, on account of the Easterne war with the heathen broken forth, great sicknesse at Boston, the troubles that day of our bretheren & neighbours at Boston-court.

In 1689:² eleven times the Lords supper was administred, five 1689: members were admitted, & 27 children were baptized.

¹ Here a word or letter is crossed out.

² Here "were" is crossed out.

March, 7: was kept as a day of publick Thanksgiving for all the mercies of the yeare¹ past, & in spetiall for answers of prayer in Raine.

The chh appointed & kept April, 10: a fast for the mercies of the yeare.

A chh-child was admonished for sin.

At a chh-meeting July, 3: a chh-child having sent a letter to the chh manifesting her Repentance for the Evill they had admonished her for, the letter was read & accepted.

At² that meeting, a sister have given offence to another of the chh in words & actions, was sent for to come before the chh, matter of fact was made evident, & she carrying her selfe offensively the chh declared their offence at her, & that they expected she should give satisfaction by Repentance & ordered her to withdraw. A chh-child who had offended was then sent for, but he told the messengers he would not come, he had not nothing to say to us, nor would have any thing to doe with us; the chh then sent two³ other bretheren to require him to attend the chh in publick assembly the next sabbath, but he came not, soe for his not hearing the chh added to his other offences, he was by the Elder in the name of the chh (who voted it should be soe) cutt off from his relation to the chh.

The chh appointed & kept July, 30: as a day of Fasting & prayer, on the account of drought, great sicknesse, war Eastward etc.

A Brother was dealt with & admonished for disorderly walking, who formerly had bin dealt with for like evils:

The chh kept Feb: 12: a day of Fasting & prayer for a blessing on the Agents⁴ now in & going for O: E: to prevent spreading the small pox, & that God would put an end to the war with the Heathen, & that God would heale & spare the life of our aged Elder: God then restored him.

Feb: 9: the Pastour propounded that some Brother might read the Psalmes in the Elders absence, the chh voted that one of the Deacons should doe it. Deac: Morton excused him selfe because

¹ Altered from "yeares."

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Written above a word, apparently "to," crossed out.

⁴ The agent from Plymouth Colony was the Rev. Ichabod Wiswall; the agents from Massachusetts were the Rev. Increase Mather, Elisha Cooke, and Thomas Oakes.

aged, upon which Deac: Faunce was desired to doe it, who did attend that service till the Elder returned.

This chh & people made a large contribution in the time of the first warrs for the reliefe of those impoverished at & about Rehoboth; The like they did also in these wars & sent it to the distressed Eastward; Also divers times for particular families whose houses were burnt, & for sundry persons brought low by sicknesse & long affliction; This may truly be left on record, That upon any motion from the Elders for a contribution on such accounts, there was a great readiness in the people to hearken thereunto & give freely & abundantly, the Lord reward it.¹

In 1690: the Lord supper was ten times, two members were ad- 1690: mitted, & 19 children were baptized.

A brother being called before the chh for unsutable walking, the chh accepted his expressions of sorrow & forgave him.

The sister above mentioned manifested her Repentance before the chh for her irregular actings & the chh forgave her.

A child of the chh, living else where, had an Admonition sent her from the chh, as had bin to others in like case.

The brother above-mentioned, upon his Repentance was forgiven.

September, 24: was kept a Fast for the Canada-expedition. [17]

In 1691: the Lords supper was ten times, seven members were 1691: admitted & 34 children were baptized:

A chh-child made his relation in private at the Pastors house before the chh & was the same sabbath in publick admitted to full communion.

The chh of Barnstable² sent to our chh for messengers to asist in Councill in their troubles, but the season permitted not some who lived more remote to attend at the time appointed, the Pastor & Deacon Morton were chosen, but on that account went not.

It pleased God to seize upon our good Elder, m^r Thomas Cushman by sicknesse & in this yeare to take him from us, He was chosen & ordained Elder of this chh, April, 6: 1649: he was neere 43 yeares in his office, his sicknesse lasted about 11 weekes: he had bin a rich blessing to this chh scores of yeares. he was grave, sober, holy & temperate very studious & sollicitous for the peace & prosperity of

¹ This paragraph is written in the margin.

² Here a word is crossed out.

the chh & to prevent & heale all breaches; He dyed, December, 11: neere the end of the 84th yeare of his life: December, 16: was kept as a day of Humiliation for his death, the Pastor prayed & preached, m^r Arnold & the Pastors 2 sons asisted in prayer; much of Gods prescence went away from this chh when this blessed Pillar was removed.

A liberall contribution was made that Fast day for the Elders widow as our acknowledgment of his great services to the chh whilst living.¹

A chh-child was publickly admonished for sin.

seven members more dyed this yeare, some of them of the best.²

December, 27: the Pastor propounded to the chh to choose meet persons to be present with him in the private examination of persons in order to chh-fellowship, the two Deacons & any other Brother whom the Pastor might see reason to call to the worke, the chh voted their acceptance of.

Feb: 10: was kept as a day of Thanksgiving for the many mercies of this yeare.

1692: In 1692: the Lords supper was 11 times, 13 members were admitted & 31³ children were baptized.

March, 16: the Pastor propounded to the chh to endeavour the worke of reformation in ourselves & families, & that the children of the chh should be more diligently watcht over, the chh voted to call all the Adult seed before them to apply sutable counsell & rebukes as there might be occasion;

April, 3: publick notice was given hereoff that all concerned might prepare themselves accordingly.

April, 24: the Pastor called the chh between the meetings to his house & moved them to renew a covenant for Reformation on the approaching day of Humiliation, & to quicken thereunto he read to them the record of what the Church had done in that kinde, 1676: as also two other papers, the one from the Elders of this Plymouth-Colony & the other from many Elders of Boston-Colony in which were counsell, exhortations & encouragements to a thorough Examination of our hearts & wayes & Reformation of heart & life, both

¹ This paragraph is written in the margin.

² This paragraph is written in the margin.

³ Perhaps altered from "30."

which papers are here next written downe, concluding they may be of use to those that shall succeed in after-generations.[18]

The letter from the Elders of this Colony to the severall ches therein:

BRETHEREN & DEARLY BELOVED IN OUR LORD JESUS,

Wee acknowledge our selves to be under solemne & awfull bonds & obligations of Duty to God & to your selves, our Sovereigne Lord having placed us (how unworthy soever in our selves) as his watchmen, & therefore giving us in charge not to keep silence in a day of approaching danger & evill, but faithfully to admonish & give warning to all, that thereby impending wrath may be diverted, the soules of those committed to our charge may be preserved, & wee ourselves delivered from the guilt of the blood of soules; It being a duty incumbent not only upon us but upon every one to consider the words of the Lord & to regard the operation of his hands, wee cannot but minde ourselves & you, of the Lords walking towards us in the way of his Judgments, in particular, the sword of war is drawne in our land, it is now more than 3 yeares since the Heathen & Antichristian enemy hath been seeking & spilling the blood & consuming the habitations & estates of our country men in the Easterne parts of the country, which though remote from us, yet some of the bitter effects of it wee have felt & tasted, & verily the Holy God thereby saith, Except wee repent wee likewise shall perish; The Dreadfull Hand of God in blasting the designe against Canada, & the death of soe many hundreds occasioned thereby, & the great impoverishing of the country following thereupon is a very humbling stroak & not to be forgotten, Moreover those malignant feavors & burning agues (which God threatens to send upon his people for breaking his commandments) that have bin soe greivous & deadly among us, cry aloud in our eares, that God is very angry with us;

And as to our selves (not to omit the hitherto unsettled & doubtfull state of the whole country) wee in this colony are brought exceeding low as to our civill Government, many openly casting off the yoke of subiection to our civill rulers, & there being noe strong rod for a scepter to rule, whereby wee are in great danger of being given into the hands of strangers to manage us at their pleasure, & soe of loosing the liberty of those most pretious enjoyments for the sake of which our blessed fathers followed God into this wilderness:

Upon these & many other affecting considerations that might be mentioned, wee the servants of God & of our Lord Jesus in the worke of the ministry, doe sincerely & affectionately commend ¹ to all the churches

¹ Altered from "commended."

& people of God in this Colony, the serious meditation upon & laying to heart these things, And inasmuch as sinne is the procuring cause of all our troubles, our earnest desire & solemne Proposall is, that each church & congregation (as well as every particular person) would make diligent search into their owne hearts & wayes, & by the helpe & strength of God labour to the utmost for the finding out those provocations of Divine anger that are in the midst of us, & therein deale faithfully & impartially, as in the presence of the searcher of all our hearts (who hath knowne us above all the [19] families of the earth, & therefore will punish us for all our iniquities, if wee repent not) & that there be deep Humiliation for & unfeigned, pœnetentiall confession of all our guilt before the Lord, with a holy resolution & engagement by divine asistance to set upon & be thorough in the worke of Reformation, that magistrates & ministers & this whole people may be turned as one man unto the Lord, which if in good earnest wee engage in, who can tell but God will returne & yet leave a Blessing behind him, & revive his worke in the midst of us, & give us to rejoyce under the shadow of his wings as in the dayes of old, All which Grace the Lord grant to his poore people for his mercies sake in Jesus Christ;

wee subscribe our selves,

your friends & servants for Jesus sake

SAMUEL ARNOLD	JOHN COTTON
ICHABOD WISWALL	JAMES KEITH
SAMUEL TREAT	JONATHAN RUSSELL
JERIMIAH CUSHING	SAMUEL DANFORTH
SAMUEL ANGIER	

This following was sent to us from the ministers subscribed.

Cambridge, 6 d, 1 m, 1692:

Whereas the most heavy & wasting Judgments of Heaven upon our distressed land, loudly call upon us, noe longer to delay the taking of some hitherto untaken steps towards the Reformation of our provoking evils & the recovery of practicall Religion in our hearts & lives; Among expedients in order hereunto, wee cannot but Recommend it as adviseable, That the severall churches, having in an instrument proper for that purpose, made a catalogue of such things as can indisputably be found amisse among them, doe with all seriousness & solemnity passe their votes, That they count such things to be very offensive Evills, & that renouncing all dependance on their owne strength to avoyd such evils, they humbly aske the helpe of the Divine Grace to asist them in watching against the said evils both in themselves & in one another;

And that the Communicants doe often reflect upon these their Acknowledgments and Protestations as perpetuall monitors unto them, to prevent the miscarriages wherewith too many Professors are too easily overtaken.

Voted, That Letters be written unto the Elders of the other Associations to represent unto them our desire of their concurrence with us in what they shall Judge practicable & profitable as to this matter.

CHARLES MORTON	JAMES ALLEN
JOSHUA MOODEY	SAMUEL WILLARD
JABEZ FOX	NATHANIEL GOOKIN
COTTON MATHER	NEHEMIAH WALTER
JONATHAN PIERPONT	

[20]

These papers being read, the chh agreed that on April, 27: they would attend that duty, & that the Adult male-children of about 20 yeares old & upwards should come to the Pastors house on the morrow, & the Females on the Fast day betweene the meetings to heare what was desired & expected of them, of which the Pastor gave them publick notice in the congregation that afternoone. Accordingly, April, 25: there was a very great & generall appearance of all the male-children¹ of the chh (those very few absent being out of towne or necessarily hindred, not one refusing to owne his Covenant-relation to the chh) the Pastour spent neere 2 houres with them in prayers & solemn Exhortations, counsells & Admonitions to all sorts of them according to their particular circumstances & then read to them what they had many of them solemnly transacted before the Lord & his people, Anno, 1676: & asked them if they were now willing to acknowledge the Lord God of their Fathers, & in like manner on the approaching day of Prayer renew the Covenant for Reformation etc;

This they universally consented unto; it was observed by divers of the chh then present that many were much affected at what was spoken, neither did they spend that training-day evening as formerly too many of them used to doe.

April,² 27: the chh & congregation kept as a day of Fasting & Prayer; the morning was spent in Prayers & Preaching, between the meetings, the Female chh-children came to the Pastors house, a

¹ Altered from "males-children."

² A word, doubtless "on," is crossed out before "April."

great assembly of them, the Pastor prayed with them, exhorted etc about an houre & did all as with the young men 2 dayes before, & with like successe & issue: The Text in the forenoone was, in ¹ Ezek: 9:3: for: part: in the Afternoone, Isa: 58: 1: ² After which the Pastor stood up & having made some Preface grounded on Joshua, 24:15: etc he read those 2 Papers in the two pages immediately before this; ³ And then called upon all the members of the chh in full communion & desired them all both bretheren & sisters to manifest their consent in renewall of Covenant by standing up all the time the Paper was reading, the whole chh reverently then stood up, the Pastor then read the Paper containing the confessions of our particular sins & engagements for Reformation, the Paper was the same that on the like occasion had bin improoved, 1676: (recorded here, Pag: 6: & 7: ⁴) only some further addition there was in the matter of our confession which our present condition called for, namely, our breach of promise in not performing our vowes to God in that covenant before renewed, Pride, increase of sensuality, too much neglect in the education of our children, not duly catechizing them, not calling upon them to remember at sermons, suffering them to play on Sabbath-evenings: Then the chh sat downe; the Pastour proceeded, & called upon all the children of the chh to stand up, which they universally did, whilst He read a paper unto them, the same before used on like occasion (here recorded [21] pag: 7:8: ⁵) only with some addition as in the other; the whole solemnity was concluded with prayer; It was observed that many of all sorts were much affected in the time of this solemne transaction, the Good Lord accept us in

¹ There is an asterisk before "Ezek:" and in the margin is written in a later hand (perhaps that of the Rev. Ephraim Little):

"1. *Fast Text* *And y^e Glory of / G. of Israel was gone up fr. y^e Cherub w^rupon he was to the Threshold of y^e house. And he calld to / man clothed with Linen, w^e had the writers inkhorn by his side — And y^e L. s^d unto — go thro y^e midst of / City, & set a mark on y^e foreheads of / men y^t sigh for all y^e Abominations y^t be done in / midst thereof."

² The words "Isa: 58: 1:" are underscored, there is a dagger before "Isa:" and in the margin is written (in the same hand as the preceding marginal entry):

"† Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, & shew my people their transgression, & the house of Jacob their Sins."

³ The reference is to pp. [18–19] of the text, or pp. 167–169 of this volume.

⁴ The reference is to pp. [6–7] of the text, or pp. 149–150 of this volume.

⁵ The reference is to pp. [7–8] of the text, or pp. 151–152 of this volume.

christ & enable us all by his Holy Spirit to performe our vowes & covenant-ingagements to him. Amen.

Letters came from the chh of Barnstable, renewing their desires that wee would attend in counsell with other ches on May, 18: the chh sent the Pastor & Deacon Faunce, who went at the time appointed.

A sister, was admonished for sin, & the yeare after upon repentance, forgiven

June, 19: the Pastor stayed the chh after meeting & propounded, that seeing many of the Psalmes in m^r Ainsworths Translation which wee now sung, had such difficult tunes that none in the chh could sett, that the chh would consider of some way of Accomodation that wee might sing all the Psalmes, & left it to their consideration.

August, 7, at the conclusion of the sacrament, the Pastor called upon the chh to expresse their Judgments about this motion; the vote was this. when the tunes are difficult in the Translation wee use, wee will sing the Psalmes now used in our neighbor-ches in the Bay; not one brother opposed this conclusion; the sabbath following, Aug: 14: wee began to sing the Psalmes in course according to the vote of the chh¹

September, 15: (some motion from some in Authority to the ministers inviting thereunto) the chh set apart & kept as a day of Fasting & prayer for the Army gone Eastward etc.

A chh-child was Admonished for intemperance, & soone after another for like offence.

Some of our chh & neighbours, living at a village in our Township, invited a Brother to carry on some worship among them on Sabbath dayes, which he did, not consulting the chh or Elder about it, Nov: 16: being sent to they were with the chh, & said they were sorry they had therein given offence to the chh, the chh then declared that they faulted not their soe meeting in short dayes & when the weather was unseasonable, but when seasons were comfortable for travelling they approved not their absenting from the publick worship with² the chh.

A chh-child, living out of towne, the chh sent an Admonition a

¹ See The Psalmodies of Plymouth and Massachusetts, by S. L. Thorndike (Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, i. 228-238).

² Written above a word crossed out.

pœintentiall answer was soone returned to the chh, upon which the chh forgave the offender.

Another chh-child was Admonished for sinne.

A motion was made by the Pastor, that some other might be appointed to read the Psalmes when Deac: Faunce was sick (as he then was Sep: 11:) the answer was, that the Pastor might call any of the chh whom he had then nominated or any other of the bretheren that might be Judged meet for that service.

1693:

In 1693: The Lords supper was ten times, seven members were admitted, 29 children were baptized.

April, 5: the chh set apart for a day of Thanksgiving, for the Preservation of King & Queen etc for our Gospel-mercies, health, harvest, destroying caterpillars last summer, saving ours in stormes checking the enemy at wells, returning Agents, & for that the Governement over us is yet in the hands of saints. [22]

The chh set apart & kept, May, 24: a Fast, wherein to humble our selves for sin, to seeke mercy for the Army & that God would restore peace & give the blessings of the yeare, mercy to O: E: succeſſe to the King etc.

The chh met, June: 11: in the Pastors house to take the relation of a man in order to chh-fellowship & accepted him according to their former vote.

Leiftenant Ephraim Morton, the Deacon dyed, october, 7: about 70 yeares of age, He was not only serviceable to the chh in that office, but usually a Select man, & principally imployed in the civill & military services of the towne for many yeares.

Two chh-children were together Admonished for sinne.

At a chh-meeting Feb: 4: the chh voted to sing the spirituall songs in scripture as translated into meeter in our new Psalm-booke the chh was then desired to warne their children & servants not to depart the assembly before the Blessing, as also to acquaint them, that the ordinance of catechizing them should shortly be revived, the chh unanimously agreed hereunto.

 It was then propounded, whether Parents not in full communion might without offence hold up their children to Baptisme? some spake for it, some said it was an indifferent thing, but generally the bretheren seemed not free to admit of it, but to continue the practice in that matter as formerly.

Letters came to us from the chh of Yarmouth to desire our presence & asistance at the ordination of m^r John Cotton Junior to be their Pastor on November, 22: the chh chose to accompany their Pastor two bretheren, Thomas Clarke & Samuel Sturtevant, who then attended that service.

In 1694: the Lords supper was ten times, foure members were 1694: admitted, & 37 children were baptized.

March, 7: was a chh meeting, which the sabbath before the chh had notice of & were then desired to prepare their thoughts to nominate some bretheren to serve in the office of Elders & Deacons: The chh spake man by man & all but 2 or 3 of the bretheren nominated Deacon Faunce & Bro: Isaac Cushman for Elders; And then each brother was called upon to nominate 3 for Deacons; many of the chh being absent the compleating of the Nomination was deferred till the next sabbath, the bretheren before absent nominated those for Elders above named, & for Deacons, Nathaniel Wood was highest in Nomination, George Morton & Thomas Clarke were æquall in the votes:

The Pastor on March, 25: stayed the chh & told them, he thought it best that the bretheren nominated for Elders should henceforward be accepted by him & improved with him in all actions that relate to the rule & government of the chh in a way of probation for a time with which the chh readily manifested their concurrence by a ready lifting up of their hands; accordingly the Pastor alwayes called those 2 bretheren to be with him in triall of persons that offered themselves to the fellowship of the chh, & in case of any offence, or to prepare any matter that was to be brought before the chh. [23] on this march, 25: the Pastor moved to know the mindes of the chh, whether they would have all the 3 that had most votes for Deacons or but 2 of them, many spake for 3 seeing 2 of them were æquall in votes, some thought 2 might suffice but would freely rest in the act of the chh whether it were for 2 or 3: the Pastor then put to vote, namely, If they did make choice of those 3 bretheren George Morton, Nathaniel Wood & Thomas Clarke to be Deacons of the chh they should manifest it by lifting up their hands, which they did very generally, & after the afternoon sermon the Pastor declared if any in the whole congregation had ought to say why the chh might not proceed to ordaine those 3 bretheren for Deacons, they had their

liberty to speak, none at all obiecting, the 3 bretheren were called forth to give their answer to the call of the chh, who did all modestly & humbly expresse their sense of their owne unfittesse for the worke, their desires of our prayers etc the Pastor then called for the vote of the chh that Deac: Faunce & Bro: Isaac Cushman might Joyne with him in laying on hands in their ordination, to which the chh consented by a silentall vote, then the Pastor prayed & He with those 2 bretheren laid on hands upon these 3 severally one after another, ordaining them to the office of a Deacon, & then the Pastor only once gave them all together their charge in the same words generally which were used in the ordination of Deac: Faunce (recorded here, pag: 14: 15:¹) then againe the Pastor prayed, & wee concluded cheerfully singing, Psal: 133: & dismist the Assembly with a Blessing:

It may be minded in all the 30 yeares which this Narrative gives an account of, the Elders called for the votes of the chh, sometimes by lifting up of hands, sometimes by silence, sometimes calling upon every brother one after another to speak his minde, sometimes when divers had particularly spoken, asking if the rest were soe minded, they in a more generall² way assenting; any of these methods were attended as the Elders thought most expedient.

Minde also that in all chh affaires when the Elders called for the Vote of the bretheren, they never called for a negative or contrary vote as Judging it would be as the using of axe or hammer in Templeworke; only care was taken before the vote was called for in any case to gaine the consent of every brother, & in case any could not actually vote, yet they expressing, that they could rest in the act of the chh, it was satisfying, & this was a great preservative of the peace of the chh.³

A chh-child was a second time laid under Admonition for intemperan[ce.]

The chh was at that time informed that another chh-child had bin overtaken, but it was the first time & he had not that naturall capacity & understanding that other young men had but was defective therein, the chh, voted that the Pastor & the 2 bretheren nominated for Elders should admonish him in private & they would rest

¹ The reference is to pp. [14-15] of the text, or pp. 161-162 of this volume.

² Altered from "generally."

³ This paragraph is written in the margin.

satisfied therewith, this was accordingly done at the Pastors house:

Notice being given of it, on May, 13: the Pastor began againe to catechise the children of the chh in the shorter catechisme of the Assembly of Divines, in the public meeting house between the morning & evening worship, the males one sabbath & the females another successively & then preached on each head of Divinity as they lye in order in that Catechisme; this course was constantly attended for more then 3 yeares, till August, 1697: from sabbath to sabbath, only on Sacrament dayes & in the short winter dayes & very unseasonable weather, there was a necessary omission thereof. Many of the congregation did heare the sermons preached at the catechizing; & God strenghtned & encouraged in the work ¹ [24]

Our Brother Jonathan Dunham sent letters to the chh desiring our advice about gathering a chh at Edgartowne upon Martha's Vineyard, where he was imployed in Teaching the word, these letters were read to the chh, April, 8, & left to their consideration. Apr: 22: the Pastor having prepared an answer, read it to the chh, they approved of it, & voted it should be subscribed by those 2 bretheren with the Pastour & sent in their² name to Brother Dunham. Letters were sent to us from the bretheren of the vineyard & others who offered to joyne with them in that worke to desire us by our Pastor & messengers to be present & asist them to gather a chh & setle a Teaching officer, the chh agreed that either of the nominated Elders or of the Deacons or any other of the bretheren should accompany the Pastor in that service; the Pastor & m^r Samuel Fuller went to the vineyard, the chh was gathered, m^r Dunham was ordained Teacher, october, 11:

A chh-child fallen into sin, living else where the chh sent her a letter of Admonition, the yeare after she sent a letter testifying her Repentance which the chh accepted.

Letters from the chh of Rehoboth came to desire us to attend the ordination of m^r Thomas Greenwood to be their Pastor on october, 24: the chh chose Bro: Thomas Cushman to goe along with the Pastor, they both went at the time.

¹ Cf. Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, xxi. 262 and note.

² This word has been altered.

Letters from the chh at the North-river came to desire us to be with them at the ordination of m^r Deodat Lawson to be their Pastor on November, 14: the chh chose Deac: Faunce & Bro: Elkanan Cushman to goe along with the Pastor to that solemnity, who did all attend that service.

Letters came to us from the chh at Sandwich to desire us to asist them in the ordination of m^r Rowland Cotton to be their Pastor on November, 28: the church chose our bretheren, Deacon Nathaniel Wood & John Nelson¹ to accompany the Pastor thither, who did soe.

Divers of our bretheren at midlebury sent letters to us to desire our Counsell in² their gathering a chh & setling a Teaching officer with them, the chh tooke it into consideration & after some time manifested to them our consent to & approbation of their motion.

Then those bretheren & those of other ches & some others who offered to Joyne with them sent letters to desire our Pastor with other bretheren to helpe them in carrying on that worke on December, 26: the chh chose Deac: Faunce, Deac: George Morton, Bro: Eliezer Churchel & Bro: Ephraim Morton to accompany the Pastor thither on that occasion, & voted, that if God carryed on the worke, that wee dismissee our members, namely, five bretheren [25] & 4 sisters to be of that chh; the Pastor & those chh-messengers went at the time appointed, the chh was gathered, & then m^r Samuel Fuller was chosen & ordained to be their Teacher.

Five of our bretheren sent a letter to our chh to desire liberty to set up another meeting within the Township for publick worship because their habitations were soe remote from our place of worship that they could not without great difficulty come themselves & could not bring their families soe far, this was read & agitated at a private chh-meeting at the Pastors house January, 21: & at that time the chh were not willing to give approbation thereunto

In 1695: the Lords supper was six times, six members were admitted & sixteen children were baptized.

A chh-child living else where, having sinned, the chh sent her a letter of Admonition, the next yeare she sent letters to us to testify her repentance & the Pastor of that chh where she lived wrote a good Testimony of her, with desires that wee would dismissee her to

¹ Here some words are crossed out.

² Altered from "about," or perhaps "about" altered from "in."

them, they being satisfied as to her meetnesse for full communion, the chh dismissed her & that chh received her.

A chh-child made his Relation, March, 31: before the chh in the Pastors house of a worke of grace, the Pastor & bretheren present with him in his private examination testified to the chh the competency of his knowledge, with which the chh was satisfied, & he was admitted in publick that day.

A brother was admonished for some failings at a chh-meeting in private, a while after he submitted to the chh & was forgiven.

At a chh-meeting¹ June, 16: the matter of Elders being named, & then nominated, desired to give their answer, Bro: Faunce declined a present acceptance of the call from sense of his owne unfitness, Bro: Isaac Cushman desired further time of consideration; In which time our bretheren engaged in promoting a new society in our westernne præincts, gave Bro: Cushman an earnest call to teach the word of God to them & desired our chh to consent thereto, Also in this time M^r Samuel Fuller, the Teacher of the chh at Midlebury a sincere Godly man whom wee had the last yeare dismissed to that service dyed August, 24: being about 66 yeares old a great losse to that place: immediately upon which that chh & towne sent letters to our chh to desire our consent that Bro: Isaac Cushman might be their Teacher, upon all which accounts the chh was called to meet on September, 1: which they did, & the Pastor acquainted them with those 2 calls our Brother had; the chh manifested generally their good respect to him & desires not to part with him,² but that he should be an elder here in his blessed Fathers room, & desired him now to give his answer to that call, which accordingly he did: [26] That the³ Providence of God was mysterious, but he apprehended he should rather accept the call of this chh to be Elder here because it was first given him before the other two calls: the chh acted noe further in that matter at that time, only voted, That it would be noe offence but acceptable to them, if Bro: Cushman did improve his gifts in teaching at Midlebury or any other place where the orderly providence of God should call him; God soe disposed that He hearkned to the call of our Bretheren & neighbours of the New

¹ Here "July" is crossed out.

² Altered from "them."

³ Written above a word crossed out.

Society, where he now lives & constantly attends the worke of Preaching amongst them & is well accepted & acknowledged by them.

1696: In 1696: the Lords supper was administred nine times, two members were admitted & 26 children were Baptized.

June, 7: the Pastor read a letter to the chh from 7 bretheren of the new society, desiring leave of us to be a distinct chh: which he left with the chh seriously to consider of: The chh was appointed to meet, June, 18: which was a day of public Thanksgiving appointed by authority, After the publick worship was ended the chh repaired to the Pastors house & concluded it necessary at present not to give a full answer to their motion;

At that meeting it was moved; that divers of the chh had exprest their apprehensions, that it was inconvenient to use both the Psalme-bookes, & therefore it was put to the vote in these words, If the chh see meet to leave it to the Pastor to fix upon the one of them to be used constantly, their silence should be taken for consent, & if any one Brother did object against it, He would not soe doe; there was an universall silence, not one objecting, therefore from that time the new translation of the Psalmes was fixt upon & only sung, it being Judged most for ædification, because the former Translation had many difficult tunes that now wee could not sing.

July, 26: at the conclusion of the sacrament, the Pastor called upon the chh, desiring them after the example of Abraham, Gen: 18:19: to command their children etc to attend more upon & not neglect the ordinance of publick catechizing, wherein of late there had bin some remisnesse, upon which followed a Reformation in that respect.

It was then signified to the chh, that our bretheren of the new society were ready to attend the chh whenever they pleased to appoint a meeting for that end, the Pastor appointed the chh to meet on August, 19: at his house, which they did in the morning it being the Lecture day, before the Lecture, the Pastor & three of the bretheren spent the time in Prayer, after Lecture, there was a particular agitation of matters & the issue was satisfying & comfortable; The Bretheren of the new society professed their Judgments to be, that bretheren should have the advice & approbation of the chh whereto they belonged in setting up distinct worship by themselves & that

they apprehended the chh had by some former act of theirs consented they should soe doe, the chh hereupon declared themselves satisfied with those bretheren, as to their carrying on the worship of God by themselves, their habitations being soe remote from us & that Brother Cushman might without any offence to us continue to dispense the word to them, & that nothing heretofore passed betwixt us in word or action of any kinde should hinder our communion together in sealing ordinances as heretofore: The whole chh & our Bretheren concerned (for ought appeared) did every one of us expresse our consent hereunto by an universall lifting up [27] of our hands, & this was declared to be a finall issue of this matter & all differences that had thereby bin occasioned amongst us, & the chh voted that Deac: Faunce, D: Wood & D: Clarke should joyne with the Pastor in subscribing their hands to this conclusion written & voted, which they did & ¹ a copy thereof soe subscribed was delivered to Bro: Isaac Cushman before they departed from the Pastors house; & as a Testimony of our Reconciliation one with another & mutuall forgiveness of all past offences, Bro: Cushman himselfe & all our members of that society, both ² bretheren & sisters (that were capable) came together & sat downe with us at the Lords Table on August, 30: following: this chh-meeting Aug: 19: was concluded with prayer & Thankfullnesse to God for that issue with our bretheren.

The chh set apart, September, 16: as a day of fasting & prayer for the Army abroad & that God would spare our Indian-harvest, God graciously heard us in that respect & destroyed it not by frost among us as in the last yeare.

Letters from the chh at Marshfeild came to the chh to desire the ³ Pastor & some of the bretheren to attend & helpe them at the ordination of Mr Edward Thompson to be their Pastor on october, 14: the chh chose Deac: Faunce, Deac: Wood, Bro: Isaac Cushman, Bro: Eliezer Churchel & Bro: Shirliffe to accompany the Pastor, who did all of them goe to that solemnity.

The Pastor propounding it, the chh set apart & kept, November, 18: as a day of publick Thanksgiving, for Gods gracious hearing our

¹ Here a word, perhaps "soe," is crossed out.

² Here a word or letter is crossed out.

³ Altered from "their."

prayers on the late Fast, Sep: 16: giving that harvest, our health, preserving our souldiers & many other mercies.

Of the 178 members admitted in these 30 yeares, fifteen of them received Baptisme at their Admission.¹

1697:

In 1697: seven children were Baptized.

At a chh-meeting at the Pastors house, March, 31: before Lecture, Brother Isaac Cushman desired on behalfe of himselfe & the bretheren of that society, that the chh would dismisse them to gather a chh among themselves, but He not expecting or desiring a present answer at that meeting, it was left to the consideration of the chh.

April, 18: the Pastour propounded publickly to the chh to keep a day of Fasting & prayer, on account of the war, the Indians having lately killed & taken captive many at Haverhill, & that God would save from assaults of the enemy² who (wee heard) were designing against us by sea & land; & because there was much scarcity of bread in many places, that God would supply their wants, blesse the seed time & harvest of this yeare, heale sicknesse now in the towne etc & left fixing the time to their consideration till the next Sabbath Before which came an order from the Leiftenant Governour & Councill to observe such a day on May, 13: therefore the chh appointed noe other time, but fixt upon & attended the service on that day:

The aspect of providence from this time was such that made way for the Pastor & chh to part one from another without reflexion upon the chh his worke seeming now to be at an end; sundry chh-meetings wee had, one day of Fasting & prayer together in publick in which the 2 next neighbour-ministers were desired to asist in carrying on that worke who did soe & the bretheren after that kept some in one house, others in another, a day of prayer; the issue of all meetings & agitations was, a councill was called the chh from the ches of Weymouth, Duxbury, Bridgwater, Taunton & Barnstable, who met & Judged it best that the Pastor should cease his worke amongst them & the³ chh dismisse him with such expressions of their love & charity as the Rule called for; He having resigned his office, the chh & towne in october invited M^r Ephraim Litle to preach to them,

¹ This sentence is written in the margin.

² Here a letter is crossed out.

³ Here something is crossed out.

which he accepted & is yet with them this May, 1698: & the Lord increase his gifts & graces that He may be a rich blessing to them: there are at this time of men in full communion 42, in both societies, & of woemen 75, besides 7 or 8 removed to other townes not dismist from us.

The good Lord cover & wash away all our sins & imperfections in the blood of christ, & blesse this chh with peace & increase of grace & holinesse to all generations, Amen, Amen.

In these 30 yeares past were observed amongst us, many dayes of Humiliation & Thanksgiving ordered by Authority, which are not here particularly made mention of: And many members upon removall were dismissed to other ches.¹ [28]

It being Judged profitable to keep in minde the usuall way of proceeding in the Examination of persons by the Elders, as to the competency of their knowledge rendring them meet for full communion, hereto is therefore added an account of the Questions ordinarily propounded to persons in private, when they also made declaration of their experiences of a worke of grace upon their soules; The Elders allowed & encouraged any person to declare his confession of faith in his owne way & method, but if any persons through bashfullnesse or defect of memory chose to be asked, such questions as these were usually² put to them.

Q: what doe you beleve concerning God? unity of Essence & Trinity of Persons & some of his Attributes were usually given in answer, as also his workes of Creation & ³ Providence in both the Parts of it, preservation & gubernation.

Q: what ——— concerning man? The state in which He was created, & his Apostacy & the Tempter to it, & the sin itselke & the Effects of it in the curse on himselke & posterity, inward & outward, here & for ever, were here spoken to.

Q: what ——— concerning mans Recovery? by whom & how? Here the two⁴ Natures of christ were asserted, & the reason, why God & why man? Also his three offices & the worke of each office.

Q: ⁵ what are the benefits of Christ? Answer being made Justifica-

¹ This paragraph is written in the margin.

² Here a word, perhaps "asked," is crossed out.

³ Here a word or two are crossed out.

⁴ The words "the two" are written over a word crossed out.

⁵ Here two or three words are crossed out.

tion, Adoption, & Sanctification with æternall glory, they were asked to give a description of those ¹ three spirituall benefits?

Q: How doe wee come to be made partakers of Christ & his benefits? the Answer being, by Faith, it was asked, what is faith? what are the ordinary meanes to beget faith? & what, to increase it? Also, what is it that makes the word effectuall to beget & increase Faith?

Q: How doth God prepare the hearts of sinners to beleive on Him? Answer being made, By working Repentance, Q: what is Repentance?

Q: what is a church? Q: what officers hath Christ appointed in his chh?

Q: what are the the ordinances of Gods house? Seales of the Covenant being named after others,

Q: what is the proper end & use of Baptisme?

Q: who are the subiects of Baptisme?

Q: what is the Lords supper? Q: For what end was it instituted? what signifies the Breaking of the bread & the pouring out of the wine? Q: what is required to the worthy receiving of the Lords supper? Q: what is the matter of selfe-examination, here wee expected the sacramentall Graces should be specified.

Q: How ought chh-members to carry it one towards another? The generall answer being, In brotherly love & holy watchfulnesse?

Q: How ought christians to act towards each other in case of sin & offence, If private, then the Rule, Matt: 18:15:16:17: was minded & lookt for, & the duty of the chh towards repenting offenders exprest.

Q: what doe you beleve concerning the state of man, at the end of, & after this life; Here death, resurrection, the day of Judgment, the Judge, the Persons to be Judged & for what, & the finall sentence pronounced upon the Elect & Reprobate, were spoken to, & the Execution of that sentence in Heaven & Hell.

I know not in these 30 yeares, that any person examined in private by the Elders but they did in some degreë give some satisfying answer to these things though some much more fully then others, & though some did not presently give a direct & proper answer to the Question, yet in further discourse about it, it usually appeared, they competently understood the thing. [29]

¹ Here something is crossed out.

Though wee did not limit our selves precisely to the same individuall words in covenanting with persons at their Admission to full communion, yet ever some of what followes was mentioned, & often all of it:

After the person was received by the vote of the chh, which in case of Admission was alwayes by Lifting up of the Hands.

The Elder, (whether Teaching or Ruling, ordinarily & most frequently it was the Ruling Elder) thus spake,

The chh hath readily received you to their Communion, if it were a child of the chh admitted, the word was, you are this day to *renew* that covenant with God & his people which was sealed to you in Baptisme; if it were a person that was not a chh-child, then the expression was, you are now to *enter into* covenant with God & his people, & thus was it often expressed.

The Covenant

Since it hath pleased God to move the hearts of the Bretheren to give you the right hand of Fellowship, you doe in the presence of God, his holy Angels & this solemne assembly, this day avouch the Lord Jehovah the only living & the true God to be your God & doe give up your selfe to Him alone, acknowledging God the Father to be your Father & Sovereigne, & giving your selfe unto the Lord Jesus as your only Priest & Attonement, as your onely Prophet & Guide, as your onely King & Lawgiver, & to the Holy Spirit of God as your Sanctifyer & comforter; And you doe give up your selfe to this church of the Lord Jesus & doe solemnly promise by the helpe of his grace to walke with God & this his chh in wayes of holy communion & due subiection to all his holy ordinances according to his will revealed in his holy word.

This you promise, the Party answering, yes, He proceeds, Then doe I promise to you in the name of this chh, That by the helpe of the same grace wee will walke towards you in brotherly love & holy watchfullnesse for our mutuall succour & ædification in the Lord Jesus.

Then followed a concluding Prayer, often thus begun,

Now the God of all Grace who keepes Covenant & mercy to a Thousand generations make us all faithfull herein to himselfe & one unto another for his Holy Names sake.

with other Petitions¹ sutable for the received & for the chh, as God directed his servants called thereunto² [30]

Att³ A Church Meeting on the 5th of october 1697 The Church Then Made Choyce of Thomas flavnce to be Moderator in sd Church & to act and to ade in all Church affaires & transactions vntill it shall please God to settle an officer ouer them att s^d Chh Meeting The Church taking into their Consideration their pastors manifestation of his desires That the Chh would Release him of office bonds To them as alsoe the advise of the honowered Counsel being Mett at plymouth on the 28 of September 1697 vpon the Church of plymouths Request to helpe s^d Church in Counsel & advice what god Caled them to doe vnder their afflicted and distressed Condition with Refferance to the troubles y^t happened with Refferance to their pastor Wherein s^d Counsel declared that it was our duty to dismiss him from office Relation to s^d Chh vpon which at this Chh meeting The Chh Manifested their Compliance with the pastors desire and the Counsells advice to s^d Church & did order the above Named Thomas flavnce to declare to the pastor in their Name⁴ Their willingnes to Release him of that⁵ office Relation he stood in to them vpon which the pastor being desired to Come To them to the Meeting house: he Came to the Chh then there mett together & then the said favnce did declare to the pastor in the Name of the Chh That they did Release him of his pastorall office bonds To them and for the future luck at him as fully Released from haveing any office Relation vnto them

After This the Church sett apart a day of humiliation To humble Their soules befor god for their personal & Chh sins & to beg of god pity vnder their desolat Condition and that god would send a labourer into his harvest in this place; which god graciously answered by sending M^{er} Ephraim Little whose labours⁶ in the ministrey was to grat satisfaction to all generaly both Chh and town and after a

¹ Here something is crossed out.

² Here end the entries in the hand of the Rev. John Cotton.

³ The entries on pp. [30-34] of the text, or pp. 184-189 of this volume, are in an unknown hand. These pages were not originally numbered, but page-numbers have been inserted in a later hand in pencil.

⁴ Here the words "their Names" are crossed out.

⁵ This word has been altered.

⁶ Here a word, perhaps "while," is interlined and crossed out.

little Time gave him a Cal to settle in s^d Town as the Minister of the Town and soe god provided for the poore Congregation very graciously That we were Not destitut of Ministerial help not a sabath for a yeare ¹ together Except one & this we have Cause to Magnify the holy Name of God for as alsoe That he hath kept the Chh in peace ² and hath Not suffered aney Contention amongst vs but There hath ben onenes of hart and affection in all Church transactions Though we were left as Sheepe that had noe shepard yet the god of our fathers & our god took the Care of vs ffor Euer praised be his holy Name [31]

Our breatheren of the vper sositie sending to the Church that they would grant them liberty to Enter into Church Couenant amongst them selves: the Church vpon serious deliberation and consideration of their motion Returned them this answer that they were willing to doe aney thing for them that god Cald them to doe that mite tend to his glory and the progres of y^e worke ³ of his grace in their soules and that if they should be advised by 2 or 3 of the neighbouring Churchis to attend such a work: the Church then vpon Notice given then of the time fixed vpon by them to Imbody in Church Couenant that the Church then would apoint some one or More of the Church in their Name to signify their willingnes to grant them their dismission After which they haveing the Concorrance of severall Churches and a promis of theyr assistance in said work: our breatheren fixed on the 26th of october 1698 and sending to the Church for their helpe therein the Church Chose the deacons to attend them on the day apoynted and in theyr Name to signify that the Church diy frely Releas them from them to enter in to a distinct Church by them selves which the deacons some of them did attend but the day apointed being stormy and vncomfort[able] it was attended on october 27th and Then the Mesengers of the Chur[ch] did in the Churches Name signify to the Elders and mesengers of the Church then Mett that they did dismis those breatheren and sister[s] of the Church whoe were of that sositie whoe had desired it and then they proceeded to Enter in to a church Couenant amongst them selves And ordained M^{er} Isaac Cushman to be their teach[er]

¹ Here "was" is crossed out.

² Here "and" is crossed out.

³ Perhaps "workes."

The breatheren dismissed were

Mr Isaac Cushman
 Stephen Bryant
 Jonathan Shaw
 Joseph dunham
 John Waterman
 John Rickard
 Samuel Stirtevant

The sisters belonging To the
 Church dismissed we[re]

Rebecca Cushman
 Persis Shaw
 Anna Waterman
 Abigail bryant
 Elizabeth Cooke
 Marsey Stirtevant
 Elizabeth king
 Mary Rickard
 Rebecca Rickard
 Suzanna Ransom
 Elizabeth Cannady ¹

[32]

Plimouth october 18th 1698

At a meeting of the Church of Ch: there appointed & attended for hearing w^t Mer Cotton desired to offer to them in persuance of y^e advise given to them by the Counsel there Conveined in september 29th 1697 as sattisfaction for those offences he was then Convicted of He Made ² a full and penetentiall Aknowledgment of those evels and desired forgivenes of god and the Church accordingly haveing Made his Confession to them they did Express & vote theire Ready and hartly accepttance of his sattisfaction offered vnto them and theire full Reconsiliation vnto him as witnes our hands

THOMAS FFAUNCE

NATH: WOOD

THO: CLERKE

In the Name of the Church

Plimouth october 18 1698

At a meeting of the Church of Ch: there it was agreed and voted y^t Whereas M^{er} Cotton has of late had an Invitation to Remoue from hence & preach the gospel to a people at Corolina this Ch do in persuance of the advise given them by the Counsell heree Conveined in september 29 1697 dismiss him vnto what the providence of

¹ The verso of p. [31] is blank.

² Here two words, perhaps "a very," are crossed out.

god May orderly Call him vnto and that he May Joyne him self vnto such a Church of Cht as god shall give him opportunity for

Attests

THOMAS FFAVNCE

NATH: WOOD

THOMAS CLARKE

In the Name of the Church

[33]

on the third of Aprill the Church Met and it was proposed to the Church whether they thought god did not Call vs to labour after the settlement of His ordenances by giveing M^{er} Little a Call to take office work on him that soe we Mite be in a capacity to Enjoy¹ all the ordinance vpon which Motion the gratest part of the Church Expressed their grat forwardness to attend; only thought it our duty to set apart a day of Humilyation to beg pardon of god for those sins we were guilty of vnder former EnJoyments of gospell ordena[nce] which had provoked god to lay vs vnder such a frown as to tak his ordenances from vs the Church then fixed on Aprill 13th to be kept as a sollom day of humiliation which was attended and at the Close of sd Meeting the Church Appointed Aprill 25th 1699 for Meting which was attended and then the Church beng Mett did very Joyntly Expres them selves every Man then present which was the Major part of the Church being 25 bretheren² that they were very desiros to Endeavour the settlement of the orden[ances] of Ch: amongst vs and did then Express their desires to M^{er} Ephraim Little to take the office worke vpon him which he took into Consideration and to Return an an answer to the Chu: in Convenent Time At sd Meeting it was thought needful by the Church for their more Comfortable Carriing on in Church affaires To make Choyce of an Elder to be helpefull to M^{er} Ep Litle in the gouern of the Ch if god should Incline his hart to take the office work vpon him; soe the Church proceeded in their Choyce and the Lot fell on Thomas ffavnce he being there present it being publickly declared where the Choyce ffell sd favnce tuck it into Consideration and Soe the Meeting was dismissed

¹ Here the words "all the" are crossed out.

² Here "did" is crossed out.

on June 12th 1699 The Chh Mett, they haveing Received M^{er} Littles Answer of the Chhes Call to Take the office work vpon him, which was of acceptance of the worke of god in the office Relation Also at this Meeting The Chh being vrgent with Tho: ffavnce to give his answer to the Motion Made by the Chh to him as aboue expressed To be helpfull To M^{er} Little in the goverment of the Chh he also accepted of the Chhes Call vpon which it was thought Need full by the Chh that there there should be a day of fasting & prayer sett Apart Earnistly to Seke the gracious presence of god to be with them in the worke the Lord by his Chh had Cald them too, which s^d Motion was made to the whole Congregation the time fixed on for the attendance of the duty was on the 5th of July which was attended by the Congregation Generally [34]

The Chh Mett againe on the 17th of July 99 and sett appart october the 4¹ 99 to Elect & ordain M^{er} Ephraim Little to be their pastor & Thomas ffavnce to be their Elder & voted to send To 4 Chhes (viz) Weymouth Marshfeild duxburry & the Chh in the western precints of Plimouth for their assistance in the work on sd day which by the good hand of god to vs was Attended by severall of sd Chhes & the sd M^{er} Little was on sd day ordained pastor of the Chh to the sattisfaction both of Chh and Towne Generally but by Reason of some disApointments the Elder was not ordained on the day Afore Apointed² but the sabbath following the pastor stayed the Chh & desired them to fix on A day for the ordaining of him whome they had Chosen to the office of an Elder, The Church fixed on the 25th of october: 99: & the next sabbath it was Mentioned by the pastor to the whole Congregation that the day befor Mentioned mite be kept as A day of humiliation which was Attended by the whole Congregation Generally, the³ pastor began⁴ with prayer & then Tavght out of the 2^d of Revelations 4 & 5 verses A very sutable subject the Lord grant it May be as profitabel to vs: as such an Exhortation was sutable for vs that we May Rember Repent & doe M^{er} Isaac Cushman Concluded the forenoone Exercises with prayer the after part of the day was spent in prayer & the worke of or-

¹ Apparently altered from "3^d."

² Here something is crossed out.

³ Here the letters "th" are crossed out.

⁴ Altered from "begam."

dainnation of the Elder before chosen by the Chh The worke was Carried on by the pastor & M^{er} Cushman Teacher of our Neighbour Chh Who ¹ did then ordaine Thomas ffavnce to the office of A Ruling Elder in sd Chh & soe the work of the day was Ended with singing the 122 ps: & the blesing²

¹ Here some words are crossed out.

² The verso of p. [34] is blank.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

VOLUME I

PART III¹

[1]

Some further Acc^t of passages Relating to the church of Christ in plimouth, from the year 1703. and so on 'till the year 1723.

In as much as it may be of considerable use to the church of God to have a book of remembrance written of what does occur in their day, and In as much, it hath been the desire and practice of those that been before mee in this church I shall apply my self from time to time to Record such Ecclesiastical transactions, and ² Remarkable providences, as ³ may Occur from this Time;

And here it may not be Improper to Insert a Catalogue, of the Names and Number of communicants or members in this church at this time. viz march 10th 1703. w^{ch} take as followeth

1. The names of the Men.⁴

Ephraim Little. Pastor
Thomas Faunce. Ruling Elder
George morton. Deacon

¹ Part iii contains 23 leaves, or 46 pages. The pages measure 11¼ inches in height by 7½ inches in width. Like Parts i, ii, and iv, Part iii is a portion of the original vellum-covered volume, the leaves being the same size and the watermark identical. Pages [23, 25, 27, 29] are blank; two pages (here numbered [18a] and [19a]) are not numbered; what ought to be page [22] was numbered [21], the error being continued to the end; and two pages here numbered [32a] and [33a] were misnumbered [32] and [33], thus causing a reduplication of two page-numbers.

Part iii is in the hand of the Rev. Ephraim Little, with the exception of two entries on pp. [33] and [41] : see pp. 217 note 2, 223 note 4, below.

² Here a word, perhaps "any," is crossed out.

³ Written above "that," crossed out.

⁴ In this list and in other similar lists, a name is preceded sometimes by an asterisk (or two asterisks), sometimes by a dagger (or two daggers), sometimes

Some further acct. of passages relating to the church of
Christ in Plymouth from the year 1703. and so &c. &c.
the year 1723.

In as much as it may be of considerable use to the church of God
to have a book of remembrance written of what does occur in
their day, and in as much it hath both the device and practice
of those that I can observe in this church I shall apply my
self from time to time to record such Ecclesiastical transactions, and
Remarkable providency ~~that~~ may occur from this time.

And how it may not be improper to insert a Catalogue of the
Names and Number of communicants or members in this church
at this time? viz. March 10th 1703.

1. The names of the men.
- Phineas Little. Pastor.
Thomas Fawcett. ^{and} Aiding Elder.
George morton. Deacon.

Nathaniel Wood. Deacon
 Thomas Clark. Deacon
 Joseph Bradford
 John Bradford dismiss^t
 Jacob Cooke dismiss^t
 Thomas Cushman dismiss^t
 Elkanan Cushman. dismiss June 7th to y^e new society
 Samuel king sen^r dyed, Augst
 Samuel fuller, dismiss to y^e new society
 Joseph Howland, dyed January 170³₄
 Caleb Cooke dyed¹ of y^e small pox feb^r 13. 172¹₂ 70th year
 Helkiah Tinkham
 John Cobb
 Samuel Dunham sen^r dead
 William shertleff dismiss to plymton
 John Morton dyed in March 171³₄ at Middleburro
 Samuel King Jun^r now sen^r
 George Bonum sen^r dyed april 28th 1704 95 years old [2]
 Samuel Dunham Jun^r dyed 1717
 Giles Rickard
 Eliezer Churchell
 John Churchell dyed Jun^e 13, 1723
 Nathaniel Morton, dyed July 7th 1709
 James Warren
 Ephraim Morton
 Sam^{ll} Rider
 James Clarke Sen^r
 John Pratt dismissed to plymton
 Eliezer Dunham
 Benoni Lucas, dismissed To plymton

added since Mr Little ordained

Eliezer Ring dismiss^d to plymton July 23, 1707²
 Sam^{ll} king Jun^r
 Joseph king Jun^r dismiss wth his wife to y^e new society Septembr. 5th 1703.
 since retur^d to us

In all 36 men

Nathan^l Thomas. dismiss from Marshfeild to us
 Isaac Doty
 Eliez^r Rogers

by a cross (or two crosses), sometimes by special marks (as ÷ †, etc.), and sometimes a short vertical mark is inserted between a christian name and a surname. As the meaning of these marks is nowhere explained, they are omitted in printing. In this list, as in all similar lists, superfluous punctuation and other marks are not reproduced in type.

¹ Written over a word erased.

² Perhaps "1717."

James Coles 80 years old. dyed Octob^r 4th 1709 in 85th year
 humphry Turner: removed: & dead
 Ebenezer^r Eaton
 hezekiah Bosworth
 Richard seirs — removed
 Abraham Jackson. Sen^r dead
 Richard A negroe man
 John Warshband dismiss^d & made a deacon
 Benjamin Warren
 Will^m Clark Jun^r remove^d to y^e Vinyard
 John faunce y^e El^{rs} Son
 John foster Deacon
 John Atwood Deacon
 Stephen Barnebe
 Elisha Doten
 Ephraim Cole
 Josiah ffinney¹
 Abiel Shertleff
 Thomas Clarke Deacons son
 John faunce. Jun^r
 Joseph faunce
 Francis adams
 John Morton
 Ignatius Cushing
 James Cob
 Thomas harlow
 Jabez Shurtleff
 Ebenezer^r Curtice vid p. 18² [3]

The names of the Women that are of the church this 10th of March 1703.

Jael Bradford, the wife of Joseph Bradford
 Mercy Bradford, the wife of John Bradford
 Lidea Cooke, The wife of Jacob Cooke
 Abigail Cushman, The wife of Thomas Cushman
 Elizabeth Howland, The wife of Joseph Howland
 Joanna Grey The wife of John Grey
 Sarah Dunham, The wife of Samuel dunham
 Martha Cob The wife of John Cobb
 patience Holmes Widdow
 Sarah Tinkham The wife of Isaac Tinkham
 patience Nelson, Widdow
 Mehetabel Doten, the wife of John Doten
 Mary Wood The wife of Deacon Nath^l wood
 Dorothy Clarke, the wife of Nath^l Clarke
 Mary Rickard, The wife of John Rickard, dead

¹ This name begins the second column.

² The reference is to p. [18] of the text, or p. 206 of this volume.

Rebecca Cole, The wife of Ephraim Cole
 Susannah Shertleff, The wife of Will^m Shertleff
 Remember Jackson, the wife of Abraham Jackson Sen^r
 Hannah Jacekson The wife of Eliezer Jackson
 Hannah Cooper, The wife of Richard Cooper
 Lidea Barrowe, The wife of Robert Barrowe¹
 Hannah Ring, The wife of Will^m Ring
 Mary Ring, the wife of Eliezer Ring, dismist²
 Sarah Followell, Widdow
 Bathshua Dunham, the wife of Eleizer dunham
 Sarah King The wife of Sam^l King Jun^r
 Margaret Jackson, the wife of Abraham Jackson Jun^r [4]
 Mary Carver the wife of John Carver³
 Repentance Lucas, The wife of Benoni Lucas
 Mercy King, The wife of Joseph king Jun^r dismist⁴
 Susannah Cole, The wife of John Cole, dismist⁵
 Martha Harlowe, The wife of Sam^l Harlow
 Mercy Holmes, The wife of Nath^l Holmes sen^r
 Judith Faunce, The wife of Joseph Faunce
 Hannah Rickard, Widdow
 Rebecca Morton, The wife of Eliezer Morton
 Hannah Rickard The wife of Giles Rickard
 Mary Jordan, Widdow
 Jehoshabea Jordan alias Robbins, Widdow⁶
 Mary Churchell, the wife of Eliezer Churchell⁷
 Rebecca Churchell, the wife of John Churchell
 Sarah Churchell, The wife of Joseph Churchell
 Sarah Bartlett The wife of Robert Bartlett
 Joanna Morton, The wife of Deacon George Morton
 phebe finney, Widdow, Indeed
 Jane Faunce The wife of Eld^r Thomas Faunce⁸
 priscilla Warren, Widdow Indeed; dyed May 15. 1707
 Hannah Morton The wife of Ephraim Morton
 Susannah Clarke, The wife of Deacon Thomas Clarke

¹ Here the words "Mary Morton, The wife of John Morton" are crossed out.

² This word precedes "Mary" and is perhaps erased.

³ Here the words "Margarett Pratt, The wife of John Pratt" are crossed out.

⁴ This word precedes "Mercy."

⁵ This word precedes "Susannah."

⁶ Here some figures are written:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 74 \\
 41 \\
 \hline
 115
 \end{array}$$

⁷ Here some figures are written:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 36 \\
 67 \\
 \hline
 103
 \end{array}$$

⁸ Here something is crossed out.

Lidia Rider, The wife of Sam^{ll} Rider
 Abigail Clarke, The wife of James Clarke
 Hannah Bartlett, The wife of Joseph Bartlett sen^r
 Mehetabel Briant, The wife of Stephen Briant
 Hannah ford, Widdow
 Ruth Tinkham The wife of Helkiah Tinkham [5]
 Mary pratt, The wife of Benaja pratt
 Mary perry, The wife of henry perry
 Jane Cooke The wife of Caleb Cooke
 Hannah Bradford, The wife of Sam^{ll} Bradford dismist ¹
 Lidia Harlow the wife of Will^m Harlow Jun^r

Added since M^r Littles ordination

Hannah Sturtevant, The wife of John Sturtev^t
 Hannah Bradford, The wife of Elisha Bradford, yⁿ Baptized ²
 Martha Howland, The wife of Nath^{ll} Howland, yⁿ Baptized ³
 Joanna Howland, The wife of Thomas Howland, yⁿ Baptized ⁴
 Mary Warshband, Virgin Since Mary^d To Dan^l pratt dyed Jan^y 12 1709/10

In all 67 ⁵ women, ⁶

The whole number of Communicants Just an hundred and three;
 the Lord add unto his Church such as shall be saved; 103 Com-
 municants.

Since added.

Mary Churchell y^e wife of henry Churchell
 Mary Morton y^e wife of John Morton
 Mary Turner y^e wife of humphry Turner
 Mary ⁶ La barron y^e wife of Francis Le barron
 hannah y^e wife of Ephraim Morton y^e son of Decon George Morton
 Sarah holmes y^e wife of Elisha holmes. dead ⁴
 Martha Doty y^e wife of Isaac Doty
 Ruhamah Rogers y^e wife of Eliz^r Rogers
 M^{rs} Martha Waite dismissed from boston to us
 Mary palmer maiden dismissed
 Mary barns the of John Barns
 hannah Eaton y^e wife Eben^r Eaton
 Rebecca clarke y^e wife of John Clarke
 Bethiah Boswoth y^e wife of hezekiah Bosworth
 Annah Norcutt maiden yⁿ baptized
 Abigail Cole y^e wife of James Cole

¹ This word precedes "Hannah."

² The words "yⁿ Baptized" precede "Hannah."

³ The words "yⁿ Baptized" precede "Martha."

⁴ The words "yⁿ Baptized" precede "Joanna."

⁵ This figure has been altered.

⁶ Here a word or two are crossed out.

Alice Bradford maiden: since marry^d to M^r Edward mitchell of Bridgwat^r
 Lidia Warshband y^e wife of John Washband vid p. 14th ¹

[6] Church Records anno 1703.

The Lords supper Administred, March 7: Aprill 18th June 6th
 July 18th August 22^d oCtober 3^d: 6 Times:

persons baptized

Benjamin y^e Son of Joseph Faunce. April 11th Hannah daughter of John and Mary Carver may 2^d Rebecca y^e daughter of William & Lidia harlow July 18th Bethiah y^e daughter of Benoni & Repentance Lucas July 25th Samuel y^e son of Sam^l King Jun^r August 8th 1703. Abigail y^e daughter of Benaja & mary pratt. September 5th Damaris & John (being twins) y^e Children of Jacob Cooke octob^r 31st total 8.

Members admitted

Mary Churchell y^e wife of henry Churchell July.² 4th Mary y^e wife of John Morton. & Mary y^e wife of humphry Turn^r Sep^t 26. Mary y^e wife of francis Le barron october 17. 1703. Total 3.

In as much as the death of his Saints is pretious in y^e Eyes of God, an acc^t shall be given of the deaths of his people

Members dyed

April 9th 1703 dyed Joseph Bartlet Jun^r One tho' not In full Communion, yet a child of y^e church he lived desired and dyed Lamented; — In y^e 38th year of his age,

Jan 170³/₄ dyed Capt Joseph howland

Feb. 20th 170³/₄ dyed Major William Bradford in the 80th year of his age. he was the son of y^e honourable Governour Bradford, and did for many years sustaine the place of Leivtenant Govern^r of y^e Colony of New plimouth and did almost from his Youth serve God and his Generation in both Civill & military posts. he dyed in a good old age and went to his grave in peace

[7] Transactions 1703

at a church meeting at the pastors house March 5. 1703. the church called Upon Sam^l dunham Jun^r to give Satisfaction for his unjust and false charging of Mary Jordan widdow, with stealing and lying, or In words to that purpose; the church having before heard

¹ The reference is to p. [14] of the text, or p. 203 of this volume.

² Altered from "June," or perhaps "June" altered from "July."

and considred the case, unanimously Judged he had wronged y^e woman, and having taken much paines with this not only privately by the Elders at his house, but in several church meetings; and all to no purpose, and he also persisting in his obstinacy and not offering any thing Thing Satisfactory ¹ at this meeting It was voted by the church he should y^e next sabbath be Laid und^r Admonition. w^{ch} Sabbath being come he was not well and So it was Omitted till next, when he Appeared and did before the church and Congregation, after Evening worship Confess his Evill, In unjust charging of mary Jordan, acknolidging That he had not sufficient grounds thus to charge her, &c and offered that w^{ch} was satisfactory to the church, whereupon he was with a solemn admonition, Restored to the charity and Communion of the church; by their unanious vote Expressed by the holding up of y^e hand.

Aprill 8th was observed and kept by this Town and y^e whole province as a day of thanksgiving by her majesty's special Command, upon y^e acc^t of y^e great success given in a war agst france and Spaine: — y^e Lord Confound his Enemies

May the 2d after y^e Evening worship was y^e Cēsure of Excommunication past on John Grey a child of y^e Church. he had been sundry times Solemnly admonished by y^e Church and all due paines taken with him to Endeavour to reclaim him from his Ill course of life as swearing drunkenness &c of w^{ch} he had been been many times Convicted; but all proved of no Effect upon the w^{ch}2 y^e Eld^r by y^e vote and with y^e Consent of all y^e Church did solemnly in y^e name of y^e Lord Jesus Christ reject him and cast him off as an unprofitable branch and declare y^t y^e Church would have no more to do with him. y^e pastor Concluded y^e work with a word to y^e Assembly built upon y^e 17 Deut. 12. 13. and with pray^r both for y^e man y^t it might be for y^e destruction of y^e flesh that y^e Spirit might be saved in y^e day of y^e Lord Jesus. 1 Cor. 5. 5. and for others y^t y^y might hear and fear. Amen.

June³ 7th Our brother Elkanan Cushman was dismiss^t to y^e Church in y^e westerne precinct, being removed thither.

June 27. Abigail Billington (who was Churchell) was called before

¹ Here something, apparently the letters "th," is crossed out.

² This word is obscure.

³ This word has been altered.

y^e chh openly for fornication with her new husband Francis Billington before her marriage to him. She Express^t by writing w^t was satisfying, and was by y^e vote of y^e Church Laid und^r a solemn admonition uttered by y^e Eld^r to w^{ch} he also added a very seasonable word of advice to y^e Young people as also a word to heads of families to keep up Family govermt and y^e pastor Concluded with pray^r

[8] Transactions 1703

July 4th Hannah y^e wife of Sam^l Bradford being removed to Duxborô was by y^e vote of y^e Church dismissed thither

September 5th 1703. Joseph king and mercy his wife being Removed to y^e upper society were by a vote of y^e church dismissed thither.

It pleased God August 10th & 11th to suffer y^e barbarous and treacherous Indians to break forth upon y^e people in y^e Eastern parts w^r in those two dayes were killed and taken at wells saco Casco & other places about 170 persons. upon y^e acc^t of w^{ch} and to Implore y^e Smile of heaven on our forces sent out against them Septembr 23^d was appointed by y^e Authority as a day of General fasting and prayer. throout y^e province. & attended

It pleased God to move & Incline a Competent Number of y^e Inhabitants of Rochester to be desirous of Joyning in church fellowship, and accordingly Letters were sent to this church to send our Elders & messengers thither to be with y^m in y^r gathering a church & ordaining of M^r Samuel Arnold (y^e son of y^t famous mr arnold that God had made such a blesing to y^e church of marshfeild) to be y^r teacher, y^e chh made choice of our brothers John bradford & James Warren to accompany y^e Elders to y^t solemnity; one of whō (y^e other being sicke) did accompany y^e Eders thither & y^e work was (thō attended wth som disappointmts) Comfortably Issued. october. 13th 1703.

The church of christ in Middleborô having Laid Lev^t Jacob Tomson & his wife (who upon Some Scruples & dissatisfaction withdrew frm y^e Communion of y^e church & desired a dismission to y^e Church in y^e New Society in plimouth that being nearer to y^r dwelling, &c) und^r publike Censure for y^r¹ s^d withdrawing & refusing to grant

¹ Perhaps "y^t."

y^m s^d dismission, he & his wife Sent to this church, to send y^e pastor & messengers to Joyn in Councill w^{ch} y^e Elders y^e Elders & messengers of y^e Churches of weymouth bridgwater & taunton (whom he had sent to) to be attended octob^r 26. 1703. y^e Church made Choice of or brother William shertleff & our brother Nathaniel Morton to Go wth y^e pastor & Eld^r to y^t service. It must also be observed y^t y^e sabbath before y^e Councill, was to meet y^e Church in Middleboro also sent Letters to us to be wth y^m (they Joyning wth Lev^t tomson¹ in Coun^l) & sent also to y^e chh^s of Barnstable & sandwitch. y^e s^d Councill was attended on y^e time abovs^d & Came to a result y^t Levtenant Tompson & his wife should make an acknouledgm^t for y^r Iregular withdrawing from y^e Communion of y^e church, and upon y^t y^e church should give y^m a dismission to y^e church in y^e New society in plimouth w^{ch} were both Complied wth and attended.

December 25 1703. it pleased God to Visit the pastor with very sore sickness w^{ch} was of Long Continuance upon the occasion of w^{ch} the church appointed a day of fasting & & prayer w^{ch} was attended by y^e church & y^e most of y^e Congregation, it pleased God to hear y^e prayers of his people & after 9 weeks Confinement, to restore him again to y^e work of y^e sanctuary. Lord make it profitable!

Feb 17 was attended by y^s province as a day of humiliation.

[9] Church Records Anno 1704

The Lords supper administred. March 19th May 7th June 11th July 30. Octob^r 1st Novemb^r 19th: 6 Times.

Persons baptized

Thomas & Elizabeth y^e Children of John & susanna Cole, (being twins) baptized march 19. Sarah y^e daughter of Decon Clarke march 19. Joseph y^e Son of Robert & Sarah Bartlett march 26. Mercy y^e daughter of John & Joanna Grey April 2^d Deborah y^e daughter of Eliz^r & hannah Jackson April 16th Thomas y^e Son of John & margarett pratt may 21st Elizabeth y^e daughter of Mehetable doty may 28th Rebecca y^e daughter Eliez^r & Rebecca morton June 4. Sam^l & Elkanah y^e sons of Ephraim & hannah Morton June 11th Ephraim humphry, Joseph Sarah & Mary y^e children of humphry & mary Turner July 23^d Samuel y^e son of William & susannah shertleff Sep^{ter} 3^d James, francis, & Lazarus y^e sons of Mary La-Barron September. 24th 1704. Total. 20.

¹ This name is obscure.

Members admitted

hannah y^e wife of Ephraim Morton y^e Son of Deacon George Morton.
 June 4th M^r Nath^l Thomas dismiss from marshfield chh admitt^d here
 July 30th 1704. Sarah y^e wife of Elisha holmes septembr 3^d 3 in all

Members dyed

Aprill 28th 1704 dyed our broth^r George Bonham, he lived to a good
 old age, being about 95 years of age he was a man almost all men Spake
 well of & is gone to receve his Crown.

[10] Transactions 1704

at a Church meeting March 17th 1704. y^e pastor moved to y^e
 Church (y^r in as much as it was a day of Gods anger, very awfully
 manifested in Suffering y^e french & Indians to do much mischeife in
 y^e Eastern parts many being killed & Captived &c but more Espe-
 cially relating to our Selves religion Seeming to be und^r such decaye ¹
 & y^e work of God among us So much at a stand So few of y^e rising
 Generation, offering y^m Selves to God &c) whether they were willing
 to set apart a day to humble our Selves before God & seek his face
 upon y^{se} accounts, and also wheth^r they were willing on y^e s^d day to
 Renew a Covenant for reformation? y^e Church Generally Seem^d
 free to Comply wth y^e motion, but one or two brethren Seem^d to
 Speak discouraging about it whereupon it was thought by y^e paster
 & Eld^r most Expedient to referr y^e matt^r to further Consideration.

May 18th was attended by this province as day of fasting & prayer.
 our souldiers being Just going out to port Royal und^r y^e Conduct
 of Lev^t Coll. Benjamin Church.

July 13. the church kept a day of pray^r for Rain being a very dry
 time togeth^r with pray^{rs} for our army then abroad.

at a Chh meeting at y^e pastors house Septembr 14th 1704 Jacob
 Cooke one of y^e brethren of y^e Church after having taken y^e first
 & 2^d Step, of y^e rule Laid before y^e Chh matt^r of offence agst Maj^r
 John Bradford, one of y^e brth. viz. That y^e S^d maj^r Bradford, had
 Spoken falsly & Slandrd him In Saying That he y^e S^d Cooke had
 Cutt 10^{tt} worth of wood off his Land, wⁿ y^e Chh came to Consid^r
 y^e charge, it was not Evident to them wheth^r y^e S^d Bradford had
 positively charg^d him thus, or only had S^d that he beleivd he had

¹ Perhaps "decayes."

Cutt So much, Maj^r Bradford, made it Evident that S^d Cooke, or his man by his ord^r had Cut some Loads of wood upon his Land, but not 10th worth, it was also Evident to y^e church, (by two positive Evidences) That when y^e S^d Cooke in taking y^e 2^d Step of y^e rule, took 2 brethren wth him, to treet wth S^d Bradford about y^e matt^r of offence, y^r was then an Agreem^t made between y^m w^{ch} y^e S^d Cooke, on his part had broken & fallen from: upon y^e whole y^e church came to this Conclusion in y^e Case, that Maj^r Bradford, Should acknowledge his fault, that he had Spoken too Largly in Saying it was 10th worth & y^t he had priz^d it too high, and that Jacob Cooke should acknowledge his fault in not Standing to his S^d Agreem^t upon w^{ch} Maj^r Bradford did Comply wth y^e churches determination & acknowledge w^t was required on his part but Jacob Cooke could not be made Sensible he had broken any Agreem^t but was willing (upon y^e pastors moving of it to him) to have a Little time of Consideration w^{ch} was Granted. y^e meeting was Closed with some very serious Counsell given to y^m by y^e Eld^r — and it must be observed y^t y^e whole church (y^t were yⁿ present) unanimously agrd in y^t Opinion of y^e Case. Nemine Contradicente

at a chh meeting Septemb^r 29th at y^e pasters house Jacob Cooke made an acknowledgem^t Satisfactory to y^e Church for y^e Fault abovementiond

[11] Church Records Anno 1705

The Lords Supper Adminstred Aprill 8th May 27th July 8th Augst 26th October 7th Novemb^r 18. 6 Times.

persons baptized

Eliez^r y^e Son of W^m and hannah Ring march 18th Mercy y^e daughter of Capt Warren. April 1st — Elizabeth y^e daughter of Isaac Doty. Aprill. 1st — Mehetabelle y^e daughter of John & Margaret prat May. 27, Elisha, Joseph, Jabesh, Mercy & Elizabeth y^e 5 children of Elisha and sarah holmes. May. 27 — Susanah y^e daughter of Eliez^r & Mary Ring June 3^d Nath^l y^e Son of Nath^l & Martha howland, July 8th — Benjamin y^e Son of Ephraim & hannah morton Novemb^r 4th Experience y^e daughter y^e Thomas & Joannah howland, Jan^r 13th 170⁵ Content y^e 7th daughter of Eliezer & hannah Jackson Jan^r 13. 170⁵ James y^e Son of Ephraim & Rebecca Cole and Thomas, Elizabeth and hannah y^e 3 children of Eliez^r & Ruhamah Rogers fb^r 17. 1705-6. In all. 18.

Members admitted

Isaac Doty and Martha his Wife march 18th Ruhamah Rogers y^e wife of Eliez^r Rogers. Septemb^r 30th Eliezer Rogers. feb^r 10th 1705-6. mem^{du}. The first male y^t was admid by a Relation in Writing. In all 4.

Members dyed. and dismissed

Samuel King Sen^r Aged upwards of 90. years. dyed. Augst

[12] Transactions 1705

Aprill y^e 12th was by her majestyes Special Command, observed as day of General thanksgiving thrô out this province, upon y^e Account of y^e Signal Victory Obtained y^e last fall, agst y^e french & Bavarians ¹ by her Majestyes forces und^r y^e Conduct of y^e Duke of Marlborough; to w^{ch} ord^r was added as a Supplem^t, y^e preservation of our Governour, Joseph Dudley Esq^r from Shipwrecke, in a time of Very great danger, and y^e Returne of our Army from Norrigs-walke, y^e Last winter as Matt^r of praise. O^r paster Taught from y^e 2 5 Judges. 1. 2. y^e Lord make Queen Ann A Deborah and if it be his Will sell y^e french Sisera into y^e hands of a Woman. Amen

July 11th was kept by y^e Church and Congregation as a day of fasting & pray^r Upon y^e Acc^t of y^e drought togeth^r with other Occasions such as y^e Warr & y^e decay among us as to y^e pow^r 3 of Godliness. &c. text. 1 Joel. 14.

Octob^r y^e 18th was a day of General thanksgiving. text. 147 ps^m 1. & on s^d day 3^{lb} 3^s was Contribut^d for daniel pratt, — one of y^e New Society his wife being then we believe ⁴ und^r y^e Doct^{rs} hands in a miserable case. & aft^r wards dyed.

At a chh meeting Novembr 20th it was By y^e Elders Represent^d to y^e Church that y^e Obliging male persons at y^r admission into y^e church to make a personal & Oral Relation might be an hindrance to Some Gracious Soules & that it might hind^r y^e growth of y^e Church y^e Church Voted, that a Relation given in in writing, publicly Readd & y^e person Standing forth publicly to Own it Should for y^e future be as Satisfactory to y^e Church as if deliverd Viva Voce. — at y^e Same meeting y^e past^r represent^d to y^e church y^e great neglect

¹ Here "and" is crossed out.

² Perhaps "y^t."

³ This word is obscure.

⁴ The words "we believe" are uncertain.

Y^t had been in them as to y^r Sending y^r children to catachising & moved to y^m that they would in Convenient time give in to y^e pastor y^e names of their children Capable of Being Catachised that So Some more Effectual methods might be taken about it — y^e motion as acceptable to y^m — it was also moved to Consideration wheth^r it might not be for Gods Glory and a meanes of Reformation and Edification if private meetings were more attend^d and in what method it were prop^r to attend, them. & y^e meeting was closed wth pray^r By y^e Eld^r as it was Opened by y^e past^r & oh that God would Smile upon all Essayes for Good!

Jan^r 24th Was Atten^{dd} A day of Genral thanksgiving (for Marlboroughs Victory Last Summ^r) by her Majestyes Command, y^e text 1. Chron. 16. 31. Contribution. for y^e Widow patience holmes, her youngest Son George being visited wth a terrible Sore Legg. Shee had but part of it in 25th

[13] Church Records. Anno. 1706

Lords Supper Administrd March 17. May. 12. July. 7th Augst 11th Octob^r 6th — 5 Times

persons Baptised

Abigail y^e daught^r of W^m and Susannah Shertleff and Elnathan y^e Son of Elisha and Sarah holmes March 24th May 5th 1706. I Baptized at Situate Mary y^e daughter of Job and mercy Otis. Peter the son of helkiah Tinkham June 2^d John William Seth Jonathan hannah Mary & Thankfull y^e 7 children of John & mary Barnes & Ebenez^r ¹ & Mercy y^e 2 children of Ebenez^r & hannah Eaton all baptized August 18. — Nathaniel y^e Son of L^t Nathan^l Morton Jan^r 12th. Totall. 14:

Members Admitted

June ² 31th³ James Cole being upwards of 80 years of age—humphry Turn^r and Mary palmar July. 14th Ebenez^r Eaton & hannah his wife & Mary y^e wife John barnes — Augst 4th Rebecca Clarke y^e wife of John clarke Sept. 29th Total. 7.

Members Dyed & Dismissed

March 10th M^{rs} Wait dismissed from Boston to us. Nov. 12. Sarah Dunham y^e wife of Samuel dunham dyed suddenly

¹ Apparently altered from "Ebenenez^r."

² Here a word, perhaps "July," is crossed out.

³ Perhaps "30th."

[14] Transactions (1706)

May 5th Wee had a Contribution for y^e Island of S^t Christophers Who had been Lately Insulted & Ravaged by y^e french. We gath^d for them 6th 10^{sh} 0^d 1 y^e Contribution was thrô out the province

Aprill 18. a General fast on w^{ch} Contributed for George holms 4th 10^s 6^d

Octob^r 17th a General thanksgiving on w^{ch} contribut^d for Sam^l King Sen^r

Novemb^r 12. upon y^e request of 3 of y^e brethren in y^e chh of Middleborô (viz. Sam^l Wood Abiel Wood and John cobb, wth y^e advice and concurrence of Sundry Inhabitants of s^d Town) this chh made choice of Maj^r Bradford and Cap^t Warren to accompany y^e past^r and Eld^r thith^r to Joyn in councell wth y^e Elders and Messengers of y^e chhs of Bridgwat^r Taunton and y^e New Society to have their complaints agst m^r Tho palmar y^e pastor of y^e church there relating to Intemperance and Excessive drinking &c and upon a full hearing y^e cases y^e councell Judg^d it prov^d that he was a man addicted to drinking &c, and thereupon disapproved of his continuance any Long^r in y^e exercise of y^e Evangelical Ministry there, and advised him to make a peaceable and Ordely Secession y^r from & y^e Chh accordingly to Dismiss him wth Such expressions of Love and charity as became y^e Gosp^l and to be waiting upon God by earnest Supplication for y^e performance of that promise 3 Jer. 15 I will give y^m pastors aft^r mine own heart. L^d Make all y^e pastors of thy flocks Such! Amen.

Memerdū ² that June 11 1707: Some of y^e chh of middleborô togeth^r wth M^r palmar being dissatisfyed wth w^t y^e form^r councell had done, called a councell of 12 churches viz: Boston, Milton, plymth plymton Sandwich Barnstable harwich Taunton Bridgewater Bristol Reheboth & Rochester when³ Elders and messengers Mett & gave a result Agreeable to w^t was given by y^e former. s^d result Sign^d by 12 pastors and 22 messengers.

1709

vid p: 5.⁴ a Continuation of y^e Catalogue of Women Added to y^e Church

¹ Here something is crossed out.

² The words "July 24" are crossed out before this word.

³ Perhaps "where."

⁴ The reference is to p. [5] of the text, or p. 195 of this volume.

- Mrs Sarah Little y^e Pastors Wife then baptized also
 abigail Faunce y^e Wife of John faunce
 hannah foster y^e wife of John foster
 Batheshua Nelson Wife of Sam^l Nelson, 1717. dyed
 50 Sarah Atwood y^e Wife of John Atwood
 Hannah Morton the wife of Ebenezer^r Morton
 Hannah Doten y^e wife of Elisha Doten
 Mary Eastland y^e Wife of John Eastland
 Elizabeth y^e wife of Josiah finney
 Experience y^e wife of John holmes Sen^r — dismist To plymton
 Mrs Mary Thomas y^e wife of M^r N.¹ Thomas
 Lydia Shertleff y^e wife of Abial Sherleff
 Hest^r Cushman y^e wife of Elkanan Cushman
 Lydia Cushman y^e wife of Job Cushman
 Rebecca phillips y^e wife of Thomas phillips
 Hannah Curtice y^e wife of Francis Curtice
 Martha y^e Wife of Thomas² Morton
 Lydia the Wife of John faunce
 Mary the wife of Thomas Clarke
 Mercy Wife of Ignatius cushing dyed 1717
 patience the wife of James cob v (next page)³

[15] Church Records Anno Domini. 1707

Lords Supp^r Administred March. 16th May 25th July 20th Octb^r 5th
 Novemb^r 16. 5 Times.

persons Baptized

Martha y^e Daught^r of John & Rebecca Parke & hannah y^e Daught^r
 of Nat^l & Martha howland. both May 4th 1707 July 6th baptized Delight
 y^e Daughter of Joseph Otis Esq^r at Scituate Augst 3^d Annah Norcutt
 upon her admission into y^e Church: Susannah y^e daughter of Eliz^r &
 hannah Jackson Augst 31: Hannah y^e Daught^r of hezekiah and Bethiah
 Bosworth Nov^r 16th Mary y^e Daught^r of Cap^t James Warren and Thomas
 y^e Son of Thomas Howland Jan^y 18th Sarah the daughter of John &
 Mehetabell doten feb^r 22. Nath^l y^e Son of W^m and susannah Shrtleft
 feb^r 29: total 10:

Members Admitted

Bethiah y^e wife of hezekiah Bosworth. and Annah Norcutt. maiden.
 Augst 3^d abigail Cole y^e wife of Aged James Cole was admitt^d in her old
 Age Sept^r 28th hezekiah Bosworth Novem^{br} 16th Richard Seirs feb^r 8th
 Total 5:

¹ This letter is obscure.

² Here "Doty" or "Doten" is crossed out.

³ The reference is to p. [15] of the text, or p. 205 of this volume.

members dyed. and Dismissed

May 15th dyed m^{rs} Priscilla Warren Aged ab^t 74 years. a christian of an eminently excellent Spirit July 24 dyed Rememb^r Jackson y^e wife of Abrahā Jackson sen^r in y^e 70 year of her Age a pious Christian. Elez^r Ring and his Wife dismissed to plimton July 23^d.

a Continuation of y^e Catalogue ¹

Jedidah y^e Wife of Thomas harlow
 Mary harlow. Maiden
 Mary Shurtleff y^e wife of Jabez
 Mary Curtice y^e wife of Ebenezer^r dyed March 1717/8
 Sarah Bartlett y^e wife of Benjamin
 Elizabeth Torry y^e wife of haviland torry
 Abigail Billington y^e wife of francis Billington
 Joanna harlow y^e wife of W^m harlow
 Mercy spoon^r The Wife of Ebenezer^r spoon^r
 Elizabeth Phillips — maiden
 Sarah Nelson — Maiden. since married to Tho^s spoon^r
 Bethia Barrow y^e wife of Rob^t Barrow vid pag. 19 ²

[16] Transactions 1707

Aprill 16th A General fast o^r Army being then Embarking for La Accada & nova Scotia und^r y^e Command of General March.

May 4th upon y^e desire of y^e chh in Marshfeild y^e chh chose maj^r Bradford Cap^t Warren and m^r Thomas to Accompany y^e Eld^{rs} to y^e Ordination of m^r James Gardn^r to y^e pastoral Office there May. 14th

July 24 A General fast upon y^e Acc^t of y^e Port Royal Expedition:

July 23^d Eleiz^r Ring and Mary ³ his wife were dismiss^d to Plymton

Sep^{tr} 24 1707: The pas^{tr} Eld^{rs} and Capt Warren and Deacon Clarke upon y^e desire of y^e North chh of christ in Situate attend^d and assisted (wth y^e Eld^{rs} and messengers of Sundry Oth^r churches) at y^e Ordination of m^r Natl Pitcher to y^e pastoral office in that church

Dec^r 11. A General thanksgiving On Acc^t of y^e Union of y^e 2 british Kingdoms &c. Text, 37 Ezek 22: contribution for Widdow Lydia Barrow — 3[£]-10^s-0^d

febr^r 6th a church meeting w^r in was by y^e Pastor proposed to the church y^e Setting up private family meetings in y^e respective neigh-

¹ Continued from p. [14] of the text, or p. 204 of this volume.

² The reference is to p. [19] of the text, or p. 208 of this volume.

³ Written above "Hannah," crossed out.

borhoods in y^e Town¹ for pray^r and oth^r Spiritual exercises w^{ch} Was Approved and Agreed upon and Oh, thou that hearest Pray^er Vouchsafe thy presence! [17]

The Proposals of the delegates. Mett at Boston in y^e year.²

Qu. What farther Steps may be taken that Councells may have their due Constitution and Efficacy in Supporting, preserving and well Ordering the Interests of y^e churches in y^e Country?

It was Proposed:

1. That y^e Ministers of y^e Country form themselves into Associations that they may meet at proper times to Consid^r Such things may properly by before them; Relating to y^r own faithfullness towards each Other & y^e Common interests of y^e churches. & that each of these Associations have a moderat^r for a certain time who Shall continue till anoth^r be chosen, who may call them togeth^r upon Emergencys

In these Associations it is Expected that Questions and cases of Importance eith^r propound^d by themselves or by Others presented unto them Should be upon due deliberation answered.

That Advice be taken by the Associated Pastors from Time to Time before they proceed to any Action in y^r particular chh^s w^{ch} may be likely to produce any Imbroylments.

That y^e Associated Pastors do Carefully and Lovingly treat each oth^r wth y^t watchfullness w^{ch} may be of universall Advantage.

That if any Minister be Accused to y^e Association

[18] a Continuation of Male Members added:³

Maj^r Isaac Lothrop

M^r haveland Torry

W^m Dunham

W^m harlow sen^r

M^r Tho^s howland

M^r John Thomas

Ebenz^r Cobb

Thomas Bartlett

M^r Nathan¹ Clarke. dyed. in y^e Winter 1717/8

John harlow

Nathan¹ holmes

M^r John Watson

¹ This word is obscure.

² Perhaps there is a question mark here.

³ Continued from p. [2] of the text, or p. 192 of this volume.

Joseph Churchill Jun^r
 Eleaz^r Churchill
 Jacob Cooke Jun^r dismiss
 Charles Little: dismiss
 Sam^l Totman
 Nathaniel Thomas
 Thomas Croade
 Robert Barrow
 Isaac King

	Ephraim Kempton	} all 3 then baptized
Sep ^r 17	Samuel Kempton	
1721	Judah west	
	Richard Cooper	

56

[18a¹] Church Records 1708

Lords Supp^r Administred Apr^l 4th May 23^d July 18th October 3^d
 Nov. 7th 5 Times.

persons Baptized

Silas Seth James John and Mary. y^e 5 children of Richard Seirs
 March 28th. Elizabeth y^e daugh^{tr} of John and Mary Barns. John y^e
 Son of Elisha and Sarah holmes. Deborah y^e daugh^r of W^m and hannah
 Ring & a Negro man call^d Richard all Baptized Aprill 18th 1708: Mar-
 garet y^e daugh^{tr} of s^d Negroe Richard. May 23^d: Mary and Martha
 the two twin daughters of s^d Negrô Richard June 27th John y^e Son of
 Mehetabell Briant. July 4th Joseph y^e Son of Nath^l and Martha How-
 land Sep^{tr} 26th Total 14th

Memb^{rs} Admitt^d

Abraham Jackson Sen^r upwards of 80 years of age admitted March
 14th — Richard A Negroe man, April 18th 1708. Alice Bradford y^e
 Daugh^{tr} of Maj^r John Bradford July 4th 1708. John Washband and
 Lydia his Wife Octo^r 31th. Total 5²

Members dismissed and Dyed

Susannah Cole y^e Wife of John Cole dismissed to Plymton July 4th

[19] Transactions 1708

Aprill 15th A Gener^l fast in y^e Province.

July 15th A General fast upon y^e Acc^t of y^e Worms devouring the
 fruits of y^e Earth: thⁿ let it be rememb^r^d (to y^e praise of Gods good-
 ness) that Judgm^t was in a great measure removed before y^e day of
 pray^r was attend^d let God have y^e glory.

¹ By an oversight this page was not numbered, "18a" being inserted for
 convenience.

² Altered from "5th."

Sept^r 2^d A particular fast partly wth respect to y^e Drought, and Partly wth respect to our fishery in y^e Town being und^r a Considerable froū. and it please^d God to Send us a gracious Answer wth respect to both: Deo Gloria

a Continuation of female Members Add^{d1}

Anna y^e wife of Eb. Dunham: Then also baptized
 Elizābeth y^e wife of John Cooke
 Rebecca the Wife of Thomas Wetherell
 Mary y^e Wife of sam^{ll} Dunham
 Mary Dunham her Daugh^r a maiden
 Widar Mary Osment
 M^{rs} hannah Cotton
 Mercy Cob — y^e wife of Ebenezer Cob
 Abigail Bartlett y^e wife of Thoma^s Bartlett
 Martha y^e wife of John harlow
 Eleanor y^e wife of Nath^l holmes
 Susannah y^e wife of Samth Cornish
 Lidya the wife of Barnabas Churchill
 Rebecca Phillips y^e Daugh^r of M^{rs} osment. a maiden
 hannah y^e wife of Jos. Silvester
 Desire y^e wife of John Churchill 2^{ds}
 Wibory² the wife of John Warshband
 Deborā the wife of Rob^t Davis, then baptized
 persis the wife of Rob^t Cushman
 Joanna the wife of Nath^l holmes, 3^{tlus}
 Hannah the wife of Eleiz^r holmes
 Mary Lathly, Widow — then baptzed also
 Hannah y^e wife of Eleaz^r churchill
 Mary the wife of Edward stephens
 Mary the wife of francis Adams
 phebe the wife of Jacob Cooke Jun^r
 Bethiah spoon^r Maiden marryed since to John churchill Jun^r
 Anne finney the wife of Robert finney
 Abigail Wethred y^e wife of samuel Wethred
 Bethia Barrow widow
 patience y^e wife of Eben^r holmes Jun^r vid p. 21³

[19a 4] Church Records 1709

The Lords Supp^r administred Aprill 10th May 29th July 10th
 Augst 21th Octob^r 9th 5 Times:⁵

¹ Continued from p. [15] of the text, or p. 205 of this volume.

² Perhaps "Wiborg," the last letter having apparently been altered.

³ The reference is to p. [21a] of the text, or p. 211 of this volume.

⁴ By an oversight this page was not numbered, "19a" being inserted for convenience.

⁵ Above the names of the months is written "1," "2," "3," "4," and "5," respectively.

persons baptized

John¹ Ichabod Mercy Elisha Ephraim Barnabas & Jabesh. y^e 7 children of John & Lydia Warshband March 27th Hannah y^e Daughter of m^r Josiah Cotton borne Aprill 3^d Baptiz^d Aprill 10th Ester y^e daughter of Daniel & Mary Pratt. July 10th — Abigail Hannah Nathan¹ & Benjamin y^e 4 children of Benjamin Warren; and Ransome y^e Son of Eliez^r & hannah Jackson baptized all of them July 24th — William y^e Son Robert and Sarah Bartlett Sep^{tr} 11th Ebenezer y^e Son of John Warshband Octob^r 9th Nathaniel y^e Son of W^m Clarke, Jun^r Born and baptized Octob^r 23^d 1709. Bethia y^e daughter of Humphry turner Jan^y 22^d 1709 Hannah Sarah Mercy Sam¹ John Thomas & Gershom, y^e 7 children of John fost^r and Sarah y^e daught^r of John atWood² & hannah y^e Daught^r of Sam¹ Nelson all baptized feb^r 5th 1709–10: in all 27:

Members Admitted

Benjamin Warren July 3^d: William Clark Jun^r and Sarah Little the Pastors wife — both admitted and baptized Augst 14th John faunce and abigail his Wife Sep^{tr} 25th John foster and hannah his Wife and Bathshua Nelson y^e Wife of Samuel Nelson Jan^y 8th John Atwood & Sarah his wife Jan^r 22^d 1709 Total 10:

Members Dyed

M^{rs} hannah Sturtevant March 1st in y^e 65th year of her Age the Widow hannah Rickard Aprill 1st in y^e 74th year of her Age. Rebecca Churchell y^e Wife of John Church¹ Aprill 6th in y^e year of her Age. all three very Eminent pious usefull Women: Leivtenant Nathaniel Morton July 7th in y^e 5 year of his Age a pious usefull man. James Cole Octob^r 4th 1709. in y^e 85th of his Age: a Very pious Man. Mary Washband alias pratt Jan^r 12th 1709 a pious person, Giles Rickard Jan^r 29th in y^e year of his Age a Good man he in his Will gave 7ⁿ to y^e chh to be Laid Out in plate abigail Cole y^e widow of James Cole Feb^r 21st in 77th year of her Age in all 8 dyed that year.

Members dismissed

[20] Transactions in y^e year 1709

A General Fast in y^e Province March 24th

July 19th a fast was kept by the Church and Town wth respect to

¹ From this point on, many (but by no means all) proper names are underscored. As, however, there is no uniformity in underscoring, all names are printed in roman type.

² Originally written "Wood," and then "at" interlined.

a greivous Drought: Text 4 Amos 7. 8: God was pleased Graciously to answer us On y^e 22^d & 23^d days of y^e month in Sending plentiful showers. *Deo Glor[ia]*

Sept^r 15th a General Fast in y^e Province partly respecting y^e Greivous drought yet Continued: and partly respecting y^e froū of heavn in y^e delay of y^e Intend^d Expedition agst Canada &c. by y^e fleet not Coming from Brittain.

Novemb^r 24th a publique and Generall Thanksgiving. Text 9 Ezra 13 14¹ Contribution for Sam^l Dunham Sen^r amount^d to 2^h 8^s 1^d²

Jan^r 25th a Fast was kept by Church & Town wth respect to y^e hand of of God in Visiting many Among us wth Sickness & Some with death it was y^e day On w^{ch} O^r monthly Lecture fell in Course but turn^d into a fast. Text 2 Tim. 3. 5. having Form of Godliness &c.

[21³] Church Records 1710

Lords Supp^r administred. Aprill 2^d June 4th July: 23^d Sept^r 24th 4 Times.

persons baptized

Ephraim Cole upon his Admission into chh: March 26. Lydia Ruth Elizabeth Timoty & hannah y^e 5 children of Stephen Barnabe & Elisha y^e Son of Elisha Doten Aprill 9th Zerviah Joseph & Elizabeth y^e 3 children of John & Mary Eastland Aprill 16th — Samuel, Benjamin, & Thomas y^e 3 children of John & Experience holmes. Jun^e 25th Lydia Sherleff & Hest^r Cushman upon y^r admission into y^e church July 2^d 1710. and Elizabeth y^e daught^r of Thomas howland and Joanna his wife and Susannah y^e daught^r of John & Mehitabell Doten ⁴ y^e same day. James Elizabeth Lydia David Hannah & John y^e 6 children of Abiel & Lydia Shertleff & James Elkanah Francis Nathan¹ & Silvanus y^e 5 children of Francis & hannah Curtice and John and Samuel y^e 2 youngst children of Thomas & Rebecca phillips all being 13. July 9th Elizabeth, Robert, priscilla, phoebe, Josiah John & Joshua y^e 7 children of Josiah & Elizabth finney and Maria y^e daught^r of Job ⁶ and Lydia Cushman July 16th — Jeremiah y^e Son of Jeremiah Jackson of Boston Sept^r 17th total 39.

¹ The figures are underscored.

² The figures are underscored.

³ Apparently altered from "20."

⁴ This name is obscure.

⁵ This name is obscure.

Members admitted

Stephen Barnaby, Elisha Doten and Hannah his wife. and hannah Morton y^e wife of Eben^{sr} Morton all March 12 Ephraim Cole and Mary the Wife of John Eastland both March 26 Josiah Finney & Elizabeth his wife & Experience holmes y^e wife of John holmes Sen^r all 3 May 28th Abial Shertleff & Lydia his wife M^{rs} Mary Thomas y^e wife of M^r N Thomas, Hester Cushman y^e wife of ¹ Elkanan Cushman, Lydia Cushman y^e wife of Job. Rebecca phillips y^e wife of Thomas phillips & Hannah Curtice y^e wife of Francis Curtice all 7 July 2^d 16. Total

Memb^{rs} Deceased and Dismissed:

[21a²] Transactions in y^e Church 1710

A General fast March 16th

March 26. A broth^r of y^e chh made a publique Confession for going out a whaling. On a General thanksgiving day.

May y^e last in 31³ was attended as a fast (being or Lecture day in Course) upon y^e acc^t of y^e general droughth. and Oth^r frouns of providence: & it pleased God on y^e 4 of June following to Send us plentifull raine. Let God have y^e Glory of it

June 15th a General fast thrô y^e province On y^e Acc^t of y^e drought tho God was So mercifull before y^e day to grant a plentifull Raine and a very growing Season wth freq^t warm Showers follow^d it Oh that men would praise y^e Lord for his Goodness! aft^r w^{ch} was a General Thanksgiving in y^e province: for Gods great Goodness in hearing our prayers:

a Continuation of female Memb^r from p. 19⁴

Anne King Eleaz^{rs} wife
Thankfull King wife of Isaac
Rebecca King Maiden daugh^{tr} of Samuel
Bethia King the wife of Samuel
patience Kempton y^e wife of Ephraim
Mercy Kempton y^e wife of Samuell
Bethia West y^e wife of Judah
Abigail Doten y^e wife of Josiah

¹ Here "Job" is crossed out.

² This page by mistake was numbered "21," but is here numbered "21a" for convenience.

³ The words "in 31" are interlined, the word "in" being obscure.

⁴ Continued from p. [19] of the text, or p. 208 of this volume.

Joanna King } Maidens Daughters of Samuel
 Sarah King }
 Anne palmar Maiden
 Jane faunce — Maiden
 Thankfull Barrow y^e wife of Elisha Barrow

95

[22] Church Records, 1711

The Lords Supp^r adms^{ed} Aprill 1st May 20th July 8th

Persons Baptized

Joseph the Son of Stephen Barnabe & Nath^l the Son of John Barnes May 13. Benjamin the Son of Abiel Shurtleff y^e 20th Job the Son of Job Cushman & John the Son of James howland May 27: 1711. Nathaniel the 7th Son of John foster & Mary the daughter Of John Warshband on July 8th 1711.

Members admitted. Alass! none at all

Members deceased & dismissed

M^{rs} Hannah Bartlett the wife Of M^r Joseph Bartlett March 12th Aged 72. a Godly woman

[23¹]

[24] Church Records 1712:

The Lords Supp^r administred Aprill. 6th May 25: June 29: August 10th

persons baptized

Blany. the Son of Thom^s Phillips, March 30th John y^e Son Of M^r Josiah Cotton born y^e day before and Elizabeth y^e daught^r Of M^r Eph Cole both baptized Aprill 6th — Gideon the Son of Ebenezer Eaton: and Marah y^e daughter of John Clark deceased borne ab^t a fortnight after her fathers death both baptized April 13th: Sarah the daughter Of W^m Clarke Jun^r borne & baptized May 25 Willis the Son of Eleaz^r Rogers. John the Son of Samuel Nelson and Mercy the daughter of Richard Gundaway a Negro (born y^e same day) all 3 baptized June 1st 1712: Samuel the Son of Elisha Doten. July 20: Marah y^e Daughter of Mercy Dunham one unlawfully begotten (for w^{ch} y^e mother was excommunicated at plymton) but again restored & received to Communion baptized Septemb^r 7th: by y^e Way some Scrupled the baptizing of it bec. a bastard. but I think their scruples are groundless & unscriptural, and seems to be

¹ P. [23] is blank.

a revival ¹ of y^t proverb w^{ch} God S^d sh^d be no more used in Israel, the fath^{rs} have eaten sour Grapes &c: to deny it baptism w^d be to punish y^e Child for y^e Iniquity of y^e parent and to punish y^e parent after reconciliation w^{ch} is unjust & unchristian. Thomas Lydya Lemuel Sarah Nath^l Mary y^e 6 Children of Thomas & Martha Morton

persons admitted

Martha y^e Wife of Thomas Morton. [25²]

[26] Church Records. 1713

Lords Supper admis^{red} 6 Times.

persons admitted into church

Thomas Clarke & his Wife John faunce and his Wife Dec^r 27. 1713.
Joseph faunce feb^r 8th Francis Adams feb^r 21: 1713/14

Dyed

M^{rs} Mary Rickard the wife of John Rickard [27³]

[28] Church Records 1714

Lords Supper Administred 7 Times.

baptized. uncertain.

Members admitted

Ignatius Cushing and Mercy his Wife. John Morton James Cob & patience his Wife: Thomas harlow & Jedidah his Wife

Members Dyed

old M^r Jackson: Sarah the wife of Elisha holmes [29⁴]

[30] Church Records. 1715

Lords Supper Administred April 20th May 24: July 3^d Augst 7th

Persons baptized

Sarah Bartlett y^e wife of Benj & six ⁵ of her children viz. Nathaniel & Jonathan: Joseph, Benjamin, hannah and Sarah: — Joanna, Jemima Thomas & Abner the children of Thomas & Joanna holmes: 11: in all

¹ This word is obscure.

² P. [25] is blank.

³ P. [27] is blank.

⁴ P. [29] is blank.

⁵ This word is blotted: it may be "6."

persons Admitted

Mary harlow maiden. Jabez Shurtleff & Mary his Wife. Ebenz^r Curtice & Mary his Wife. Sarah y^e Wife of Benj. Bartlett: Joannah the wife of Thomas holmes: In all 7

Members Dyed

James Warren Esq^r in y^e 50th year of his Age: In June 1715 An Exceeding loss to y^e church Town & County M^{rs} patience Nelson, Widow: John Cobb aged ab^t 80: M^r Joseph Bradford July 10th in y^e 85th year of his Age Samuell Rider sen^r July 18th in y^e year of his Age: Eleaz^r churchill sen^r Mary harlow Maiden: Mary the wife of Eleaz^r churchill: — in all 8:

[31] Transactions 1715

God having been pleased to Visit the Town with much sickness & Many deaths. about 40. dying wthin little more than a year. a day of fasting and pray^r was Appointed To be Attend^d on y^e 7th ¹ day of June. a few days before w^{ch} viz one y^e 3^d day of June wee had another awfull Instance of Gods displeasure O^r Meeting house being struck and Very much rent by a Terrible Clap of thund^r S^d day Was Attended and behold a Gracious God So farr heard the Cryes of his people that y^e sickness abated and Wee had no death for many Weeks after. oh y^t men would praise y^e lord for his Goodness!

August 7th 1715. a Contribution was moved; & made both by the Church & Congregation To defray The Expense of Grave stones sett upon y^e grave of that worthy & Usefull servant of God Eld^r Thomas Cushman the whole Congregation were very forward in it

[32] Church Records 1716

Lords supper Administred Aprill 8th May 13th June 17th July 22^d Septemb^r 2^d Octob^r 21: Nov^r 25: 7 Times

Persons Baptized

Maj^r Isaac Lothrop, May 6th Theopilus the son of M^r Josiah Cotton: May 13th Melatiah Isaac & Elizabeth y^e 3. children of Maj^r Lothrop. William & Joanna y^e children of William harlow sen^r Haviland y^e son of haviland Torrey, Sarah D^r of Sam^l Nelson May 20. Sarah, Mercy, Francis, Jemimah & Content y^e 5 children of Abigail Billington & John y^e son of John faunce Jun^r: Joanna the Daughter of Thomas howland

¹ This figure is uncertain, having been altered.

June 17th Hezekiah y^e son of Hezekiah Bozworth & Jabez y^e son of Robert Barrow, both July 8th 1716 Mercy spoon^r baptized July 15: Patience y^e Daught^r of Eben^r Morton Augst 5th Perez y^e son of M^r John chipman of sandwich: in his 13th year & Anna Dunham the Wife of Eben^r Dunham upon her admission into y^e church. Augst 12th Silas paul & Robert y^e 3 sons John & Elizabeth Cooke. in all 25.

Members Admitted

Maj^r Isaac Lothrop who was also yⁿ baptized. M^r haviland Torry & his Wife, W^m harlow & his Wife, W^m Dunham & Abigail Billington. all 7. on May 6th: M^r Thomas howland M^r John Thomas, Mercy spoon^r Elizabeth phillips & Sarah Nelson all 5 July 15: & Bethia Barrow: Elizabeth Cooke and Anna Dunham Augst 12th Rebecca Wetherell August 26th Mary Dunham y^e Wife of Sam^l Dunham & Mary her Daugh^r Octob^r 7: Eben^r Cob & his wife Widow Os^{mt} & M^{rs} Cotton Novem^{br} 18:

Membr^{rs} Dyed

Lydia the Wife of John Warshband septem^{br} 22^d

in all admitted 1716. 22^r Members:

persons baptized 1716

Rebecca & Thomas y^e children of Tho^s Wetherell & Seth y^e son of Eben^r Dunham sep^{tr} 9th 1716: Edw^d the son of Elisha Doten Octob^r 21, 1716: Meriah the of Eleaz^r Rogers. and Thomas the son of Rob. Barrow Nov^r 25th: Ebenezer Nathaniel hannah Sarah Mercy Nathan John Mary & Elizabeth y^e 9 children of Ebene^r Cob. Decemb^r 1716 in all 40 baptized

[32a¹] Transactions in y^e year 1716

In the Spring of this year upon a motion made to the Pastor that y^e Deacons that yⁿ Were Living at such a Distance it might be Convenient to choose two more, w^{ch} the Pastor Complying wth on y^e Next sabbath proposed it to y^e chh & Appointed the Next² Wednesday for a church meeting at his house. but wth all told y^e church y^t he would not have y^m choose the Deacons und^r a Certain Expectation of his Ordaining them for as To y^t Matt^r he was not well satisfied about it. hower the church mett at y^e time & place & without any dispute ab^t the Ordination made Choice of O^r Broth^r John foster & Our Brother John Atwood to be Deacons, y^e Vote was

¹ This page is misnumbered "32," but is here numbered "32a" for convenience.

² Here the letters "sabb" are crossed out.

very Unanimous. and being desired by ye Pastor soon after, took y^r places in y^e Deacons seat but in some short time it was commonly s^d the most of y^e church were dissatisfyed y^t they were not ordained Upon w^{ch} a chh meeting was Called wⁱⁿ the pastor l. gave y^e church an Acc^t in Writing y^e grounds of his scrupling y^r Ordination & y^a desired to know y^e Brethrens mind: who (all that were present being about 23 or 24) declared y^r Opinion for y^r being ordain^d not above 4 or 5. seem^d of a Contrary Opinion. upon w^{ch} the pastor proposed that y^e business not requireing hast it might be left To furth^r Consideration. To w^{ch} y^e chh Concurred & y^e meeting was with much peace

August 19. a child of y^e church made a publick Confession in Writing for fornication before his Marriage y^e child being borne ab^t 5. Months aft^r Marriage:

Octob^r 14 1716 the sacrament was Appointed to be on y^t day but wee were disappointed by a most Violent storm of Wind & Rain not only of y^e sacram^t but of any Meeting. neith^r was y^r any in y^a County sundry of our fishermen were out coming from Cape Sables who were wonderfully preserved: Oh that men w^d praise y^e Lord &^e

Novem^r 11. the pastor proposed To y^e church y^e ordination of y^e above mentioned 2 deacons John foster & John Atwood (Without y^e Imposition of hands) y^e Brethren by a full Vote consented. & they were ordain^d y^e pastor begining wth pray^r gave y^m a charge & y^e Eld^r concluded with pray^r

[33] The Church Records. 1717

Lords Supp^r Admsr^d May 5th — Augst 4th Septemb^r 15: Octob^r 20. Dec^r 1: 5 Times.

Persons baptized

patience y^e Daugh^r of Eben^r Dunham sen^r April 7th Job y^e son of Ebenz^r Cob, & sarah y^e Daught^r of Thom^s Clarke 3^{tus} both April 14: Mercy the daugh^t of Ignatius Cushing. April 28, Martha y^e wife of John harlow April 21st upon her admission To full Communion. Gershom the son of James Cob. May 5th. Mercy, Nathaniel, Joshua, patience Eleanor Joseph Benjamin the 7¹ children of N. holmes 2^d & his wife; and Lydia the daughter of hannah Curtice all Augst 4th ² Nathaniel James Barna-

¹ Altered from "8."

² Altered from "8th."

bas Zepheniah Bathua & Joanna y^e 6 children of Nath^l holmes Jun^r & Barnabas & William y^e sons of Barnabas churchill: & Jane the daught^r of John faunce sen^r all baptized Augst 11. 1717. Joseph y^e son of Capt Benj Warren, Sarah y^e Daught^r of Eben Curtice & Samuel Abigail Josiah Thomas Joseph Benj^m & James y^e 7 children of Sam^l Cornish all Octob^r 20, 1717 the 2 Eldest of y^m Covenant^d for y^m selves being adult Joanna y^e wife of N. holmes: ¹

Members Admitted:

Thomas Bartlett & abigail his wife both admitted March 24th M^r Nath^l Clarke, John harlow & his wife April 21st Nathan^l holmes y^e son of John holmes deceased & his Elean^r his wife Aprill 28: M^r John Watson susannah Cornish & Lydia churchill July 28, Joseph churchill Jun^r & Rebecca phillips Septembr 8th hannah Silvester, Deborah Davis desire churchill & Wibory Warshband all 4 Novemb^r 17. 1717. & persis Cushman Nov^r 24. 1717 18 in all

John the Son of John Watson, Baptized in August 1717 ²

baptized

Abiah the child of Joseph churchill Nov^r 28. 1717. being thanksgiving day: Mary the daught^r of Jabez Shurtleff Nov^r 24:

Members Dyed

Elizabeth Relict of Cap^t Joseph howland March 1717 Jane, y^e wife of Eld^r faunce Augst 8. 1717: in 68th year of her age & M^r N. Clarke, Sam^l Dunham Hannah Cooper, Lydia Barro ³ Mercy King old M^{rs} Cole, Mercy Cushing Bathshua Nelson Mary Curtice all in y^e winter 171⁷/₈ 11 in all: [33a⁴]

***the baptism of y^e child mentioned ⁵ in the following page ⁶ being as was there Express^d the first Instance I here would mention breafly y^e grounds of y^e proceeding:

¹ The words "Joanna y^e wife of N. holmes" are so placed as to make it difficult to know whether they should be entered under the head of baptisms or of admissions.

² This line was inserted later, as it is apparently in the hand of the Rev. Nathaniel Leonard.

³ This name is uncertain.

⁴ This page is misnumbered "33," but is here numbered "33a" for convenience.

⁵ Here "mentioned" is crossed out.

⁶ The reference is to p. [34] of the text, or p. 218 of this volume.

1. the child was undeniably a prop^r subject of Baptism (even agreeable To y^e Ancient practice in plymt^h) y^e mother being in full Communion:

2. I nev^r could find that baptism (viz. the administration of it) is any where in scripture Limited To y^e sabbath or a public Assembly. & I alway^s had a great^r regard to y^e Scripture than the Custome or practice of any Minister or Church.

(1) I cant find it Limitt^d To sabbath in y^e Scripture.

(2) nor To a publick Assembly:

1: not to y^e sabbath:

[34] a Church Records 1718

Lords Supper Administred March 30, May 25: June 29. July 23: Sept^r 18. Nov^r 9th

Persons Baptized

W^m y^e son of Thomas Wetherl, Richard y^e son of Nathl holmes 2^{ds} Aprill 13. and Solomon Joseph Ebenezer hannah Mary Thankfull & Content y^e 7 children of Joseph Silvest^r Aprill 13. 4 of them viz. Solomon Joseph hannah & Mary upon y^r own Actually Covenantig being Adult. at y^e same time hannah was propound^d for full Commuⁿ^o 1 Mercy the Daught^r of John Cooke Aprill 17: Robert, Ruth Abigail Thomas Joshua hannah & Jonathan the 7 children of Rob^{rt} Cushman: & hannah Eleaz^r & Lydia the 3 children of Eleaz^r holmes, all baptized June 1. Mary Lathly Widow, W^m the son of Thomas Clarke 2^{ds} Jonathan the son of Thomas harlow, Hannah y^e daught^r of John faunce Jun^r. Sarah the daughter of Cap^t Ephrⁿ Morton. all 5 baptized July 6: Mary Rhoda Mercy & John 4 of y^e children of Mary Lathly & George y^e son of M^r Jno Watson. Eleaz^r & Josiah y^e 2 sons of Eleazer churchill, Lydia y^e Daughter of Rob^t Barrow. all 8 July 13: Ephraim the son of Eleaz^r holmes baptized on a saturday at his house it being at y^e point of death. & dyed about 6 hours after. being the first Instance of that nature in this town, viz. of any baptized privately. it was done July 19. 1718: p^r Ephraim Little.*** 2 James Lathly. Mary. hannah & Sarah y^e 3 children of Ed. stephen[s] all 4 baptized July 20. 1718: Mary Adams & phebe Cooke on y^r Admission & Thomas y^e son of Thomas Clarke 3^{tus} all Augst 17th in all 40 vide next page³

¹ Here some words are crossed out.

² The asterisks refer to the entry on p. [33a] of the text, or p. 217 of this volume.

³ The reference is to p. [35] of the text, or p. 219 of this volume.

Members Admitted

hannah y^e wife of Eleizer holmes May, 11th Eleaz^r churchill & his wife Mary Stephens and y^e Widow Mary Lathly all 4 July 6th Mary y^e wife of francis Adams & Jacob Cooke Jun^r & Phebe his wife Augst 17: M^r Charles Little & Bethia spoon^r Nov^r 2^d

Members dyed

Martha howland y^e wife of Nath^l howland Augst 15 Hannah y^e wife of Elisha Bradford y^e same month & in y^e same house. Widow harlow feb. 11: 171[§] 28. widow Cole dyed [35]

baptized in y^e year 1718

Zacheus the son of Eben^r Morton Nov^r 2^d

at a church meeting at my house Octob^r 13. 1719. I proposed to y^e chh that it would be very convenient for y^m to declare their minds Concerning Letters of Dismission in Case a a memb^r in full Communion removed from one church To anoth^r aft^r some thoughts upon it and Agitation upon the affair it was by a very full vote agreed. that for the future any members of other churches eith^r now residing wth us or that hereaft^r should come Among as residents should as soon as Conveniently they could obtain Letters of dismission from the respective churches wth w^m they had Covenanted and Actually covenant wth y^s church w^r they Expected a Constant Communion & that if any of our church removed wee should Expect they would do the Like in y^e churches To which they went!! and that there should be a Vote of y^e church in y^s Affair call^d for and obtained w^a any desired upon such a dismission To Joyn wth us:

at a church meeting at my house August 16: 1721: the Case of Bethia King wife of sam^l King came und^r our consideration: the Case was this. the woman many months before was propound^d to y^e church. some of y^e Brethren objected w^{ch} putt a demurr upon y^e proceeding; many Endeav^{rs} were used (thô to no purpose) to remove the difficultyes. it was therefore thought by y^e Eld^{rs} most advisable to have y^e Opinion of y^e church upon the Matter. and it was fully Agreed and voted. that those brethⁿ who were dissatisfyed should use all possible Endeav^{rs} To obtain satisfaction. but in Case they did not succeed there should be a hearing of y^e whole before y^e Elders Maj^r Lothrop M^r John churchill & Deacon Woods: and so y^e meeting issued with peace and Comfort.

[36] Church Records 1719

Sacram^t Administred March 15. Aprill 27:

Persons Baptized

Lydia the daught^r of Robert finney & Thomas the son of Robert Davie both March¹ 15: Ephraim y^e son of Nath^l holmes. Abigail Wethered upon her admission. Icabod y^e son of Joseph churchill: Lydia the Daugh^r of W^m harlow June 14th Lucy the daugh^r of Charles Little Octo^r 11:

Members Admitted

Anne the wife of Rob^t Finney March 1. Abigail wetherhead Aprill 12th

Members deceased²

[37] 1721

Sacrament administred. May 28: June 25th July 30th August 27th sept^r 24:

Persons baptized

Nathaniel y^e son of solomon silvest^r at his own house. by reason of sickness. July 20th Eph^r Elizabeth & Isaac y^e children of Bethia barrow. Johns widow. and Ephraim y^e son of Capt Morton & Lydia y^e daught^r of Thomas harlow all July. 30th William y^e son of Ebenezer holmes Jun^r Augst 13: patience y^e Daught^r of John faunce Sen^r: Isac Mary Lidia Martha and Jonathan y^e 5. children of Isaac King sept^r 3^d 1721: Ephraim Kempton Samuel Kempton, Judah west all three sept^r 17. upon y^r admission — Thomas Kempton William and Joanna the children of Ephraim Kempton & Mary Lowis Bathua sam^l John Mercy. the 6 children of samuel Kempton all baptized sept^r 24 Thomas Kempton being ab^t 17. years old Covenant^d upon his Account: Rebeca y^e daught^r of Robert finny at his own house sept^r 27. Charles & Judah y^e Sons of Judah West Octo^r 1st

Verte³ total 28

Members Admitted

the widow bethia Barrow & patience the wife of Eben^r holmes Jun^r July 23. and sam^l Totman in June before. Nathaniel Thomas dismist from Salem Augst 13: Thomas Croad Rob^t Barrow Isaac King & his

¹ Here "19:" is crossed out.

² Here the words "Abigail Wethered Aprill 12th" are crossed out.

³ That is, turn to p. [38] of the text, or p. 221 of this volume.

wife Anna King Eleaz^{rs} wife & rebecca King daughter of sam^h all 6 August 20 1721: Bethia King septemb^r 10th Ephraim Kempton his wife. samuel Kempton & his wife Judah West & his wife. Abigail doten Joanna King and Sarah King all sept^r 17. 1721:

Members deceased

susanah y^e wife of deacon Clark in July. Caleb Cooke of y^e small pox Aged about 70 years feb^r 13. 172 $\frac{1}{2}$

[38] 1721

Persons baptized

Josiah Abigail Experience & patience the four children of Josiah Doten: Octob^r 8th 1721: paul y^e Son of Elisha Doten Nov^r 26 Edward y^e Son of Edward stephens De^{er} 10th 1721: Ebenezer y^e son of John Churchill Jun^r Jan^r 7. 17 $\frac{3}{4}$: Amaziah son of John harlow. Jan^r 28:

persons baptized. 1722

Samuel the son of W^m Boid. a memb^r of a church of Christ in y^e north of Ireland, June 10. 1722. Edward y^e son of Josiah Cotton Esq^r June 24.¹ 1722: Ebenezer y^e son Ebenezer holmes Jun^r June 3^d 1722:

Benjamin y ^e son of Hezekiah Bozworth:	} all 3 July 15 1722
Mary the Daught ^r of Thomas Wetherell	
Sarah the daught ^r of Sam ^h Kempton	

Elizabeth y^e daught^r of solomon silvest^r July 22, 1722 David y^e son of Judah West.² August 12th 1722. Joseph the son of Joseph churchill septemb^r 9th 1722

thankfull y ^e Son of Eleaz ^r holmes	} both Septe ^r 23. 1722
y ^e of francis adams	

Sarah the Daugh^r of Sam^l Jackson Jan^r 20. 1722 Amos y^e Son of Rob^t Barrow feb^r 10. 172 $\frac{2}{3}$

baptized 1723

Joseph & Benj y^e twins of Thomas spoon^r in Aprill at his house. both quickly dyed. susannah y^e daughter of Thomas Clark at ponds³ May 26. Lydia y^e Daught^r of Elisha Barrow⁴ June 9. 1723 Eunice y^e daughter of Eben^r Curtice. Sarah y^e daughter of Josiah Doten: & Samuel y^e son of Isaac King all 3. July 14th 1723 — James y^e Son of James Clarke July 28 Josiah y^e son of Josiah Cotton Esq^r Aug^t 4th Lem^h y^e son of

¹ This date is obscure.

² Here a word, perhaps "July," is crossed out.

³ This word is obscure.

⁴ This name is obscure.

Barnabas churchill Augst 25: 1723: Lydia daught^r of Elisha Barrow in Aprill 1723: Mary the daughter of Jabez shurtleff and Thomas y^e son of Thomas ¹ Stirmy Sept^r 15. 1723:

[39] 172 $\frac{1}{2}$

feb^r 11. on y^e Lords day Evening the pastor with y^e Concurrence of Eld^r faunce publicquely moved To y^e church to meet at his house on Teusday following that he might know y^r minds in a Matter of considerable Importance, Accordingly on y^e Teusday feb^r 13. the church mett Generally, and Aft^r Opening y^e meeting by pray^r the Pastor made a motion to y^e Brethren about making choice of anoth^r Ruling Eld^r to Assist in y^e rule & Governm^t of the church in w^{ch} y^e Rev^d Aged Eld^r faunce concurred aft^r some Little Agitation wheth^r it was so Convenient for the brethren to give their Opions then or Leave it to furth^r consideration.

It was Voted by a free & full*** vote, viz: That this church were of Opinion that such an Offier was of Divine Institution and Authority. and they Judg^d it might be for Gods Glory & y^e Good of this church to have another chosen and that it would be Expedient the church in some convenient time be Call^d togeth^r for that end. & so y^e meeting was Clos^d by pray^r

***i. e. of all there ² I suppose Excepting one or two thô some brethren were absent. and others came in aft^r y^e passing y^e vote.

a church fast on y^e Acc^t of drought June 7, 1722 another more private at Jos. Kings June 20 1722:

Sep^{tr} 1. 1723. the pastor wth y^e Consent of y^e Eld^r ³ propound^d to y^e church in publick aft^r y^e publick Exercise that y^e church Again meet togeth^r That wee might know y^r minds about the Eld^rship. and sept^r 13. at 2 in y^e Afternoon was Appointed for a church meeting at y^e pastors house upon that Affair: on S^d day some of y^e church mett but (the Eld^r being absent & many of y^e church by reason of a storm on that day) it was thought best not to Ent^r upon y^e Affair then

[40] 1722

Lords supper Administred. July 22. 1722: Septem^r 9th October 7th 1723. Aprill 28th ⁴ June 3^d ⁵ June 30th August 4th Septemb^r 1:

¹ Here a name is crossed out.

³ Here "&" is crossed out.

⁵ This figure is uncertain, as it has been altered.

² Perhaps "these."

⁴ Here "Apr" is crossed out.

Memb^{rs} admitted

Richard Cooper. Anne palmar Jane faunce

Members dyed 1723

M^{rs} churchill May 1723. Mary¹ howland may 26. 1723: M^r
John churchill June 13. 1723. aged ab^t 67. years.²

[41]

The Reuerand M^r Ephrame Little Pastor of y^e Church of Christ
in Plimouth Decassed Nouember 24th 1723 being in y^e Pasteroll
office in this Church for y^e Space of 24 years Last Past³

¹ Altered from " May."

² Here end the entries in the hand of Mr. Little.

³ This entry is in an unknown hand.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

VOLUME I

PART IV¹

[1] The Church Records continued

After the Decease of the Reverend Mr Ephraim Little the Church proceeded to Call and Settle another in the Pastorall Office over them; Their proceedings were as Follows:

At a Meeting of the Church of Christ Regularly convened in the South Precinct of the Town of Plymouth on the Thirteenth day of February 1723/4

To proceed to Chuse and Call a Minister to Settle in y^e Pastorall office wth the Church and Congregation, Here; And after serious Meditation & due Consideration and earnest Application we gave forth our Votes and the Lot fell upon the Reverend Nathaniel Leonard whom we Hope and Pray may be a man after God's own Heart.

And Isaac Lothrop Esq^r was chosen to waite upon Him and Give Him an Invitation to Accept thereof.

February 13th 1723/4 the Precinct Concurred with the Churches Vote and Act above writ:

Entered in the Precinct Book Folio 7th p John Dyer Clerk of the South Precinct in Plymouth

March 19th 1723/4 The Person thus Chose and Called to the

¹ Part iv contains 12 leaves, or 24 pages. The pages measure 11¼ inches in height by 7½ inches in width. Like Parts i, ii, and iii, Part iv is a portion of the original vellum-covered volume, the leaves being the same size and the watermark identical. Four pages (here numbered [17], [18a], [20], and [22]) are not numbered; and p. [20] and the verso of p. [22] are blank.

Part iv is wholly in the hand of the Rev. Nathaniel Leonard, with the exception of a few entries on p. [22] of the text: see pp. 247-248, below.

The Church Records continued

After the Decease of the Reverend Mr. Ephraim Little the Church proceeded to Call and settle a pastor in the Pastor's Office over them; Their proceedings were as follows.

At a Meeting of the Church of Christ Regularly convened in the South Precinct of the Town of Plymouth on the Thirteenth day of February 1729/30 in Boston City.

To proceed to Choose and Call a Minister And after serious the Church and Congregation, Hereby earnest Application and due Consideration and earnest Application we gave forth our votes and the Lot fell upon the Reverend Nathaniel Leonard whom we chose and they may be a Man after God's own heart.

And Isaac Tothrop Esq. was chosen to wait upon him and give him an invitation to accept thereof.

February 12th 1729/30 the Church met Concerned with the Church's affairs and did as above writ.
Isaac Tothrop

work of the Gospell Ministry by the Church and Precinct gave this Answer.

To the First or South Church of Christ and to the South Precinct in Plymouth.

GENTLEMEN

I understand by y^e Votes of your Church and Precinct baring date February 13th 1723/4 and by those Gentlemen you appointed to Inform me of them — That you have Called me to Settle with you in the work of the Gospell Ministry: which Call I have taken into Serious Consideration and have been earnest with Heaven for Direction; and Hope God hath Inclined and Disposed Me to what may tend to his Glory and your and my Spirituall and Eternall Advantage. And do now by these Inform you that I am Come to a Determination (which is This) That I do heartily and willingly Accept of y^e Call you have given Me to Settle with you in the Great work of the Gospell Ministry; And shall depend upon you for an Honourable and Comfortable Support and Maintenance while God shall Please to continue me among you

And as God shall Enable me shall lay out my-selfe to be Servicable to you in the Great work of the Gospell Ministry which by his Providence He seems to Call me to Ingage in in this Place. And Hope and Pray that my [2¹] Labours may be attended with His Blessing, and y^t He will assist me therein. And now Conclude hoping and Praying that the God of Grace and the God of Peace may Dwell among us, and build us up, and at last grant to us all an Inheritance among them that are Sanctified

From your Sincere and faithfull Frind and Servant

NATH^L LEONARD

Plymouth March
19th 1723/4.

Sent to the Church and Precinct by a Com^{tee} Chosen to Receive S^d2 Leonards answer.

Then the Church Proceeded thus —

Att a Church meeting at Plymouth June y^e 5th 1724 The Church voted that Elder Faunce and y^e Deacons should as soon as Conveniently confer with the³ S^d4 Leonard and with Him appoint the Time

¹ At the top of p. [2] is written "Church Records."

² Written over "m^r."

³ Here "Revd" is crossed out.

⁴ Here "m^r" is crossed out.

of His Ordination, And then Inform the Church and Precinct with the Time when, In order to a Regular Proceeding in Said Affair.

They did so as Follows

To the Church and Precinct of the South part of Plymouth

In pursuance to the Desire of the Church that my Selfe and the Deacons should confer with M^r Leonard and Appoint the Day of his Ordination; These may Inform you that we have complied with it; And appointed Wednesday the Twenty Ninth of July next to be the day if God pmit

Signed THO^s FAUNCE
in behalfe of My Selfe and the

June 10th 1724

Deacons

Entered in the Precinct Book Folio 9. p John Dyer Clerk of the South Precinct in Plymouth

Accordingly Letters were Sent from This Church to Fourteen Churches, (viz. The Church of Taunton, Cambridge, Scittuate South Church, Marshfield, Duxborough Norton, Plymouth North Church, Pembroke, Plymton, Midleborough, Rochester, Bridgewater, North and South Churches, and Sandwich) Humbly asking the Presence of their Pastors, and Such Messengers as ¹ the Severall Chhs should see cause to Send; To assist in such Acts of Ministerial Performancies, and Ecclesiasticall Communion as the Day of ordination might Require. Accordingly the Pastors of Most of these Chhs, with Messengers from them being met to geather at Plymouth July y^e 29th 1724, The Pastors of the Churches Proceeded [3²] To Separate and Ordain S^d³ Nath^l Leonard to the work of the Gospell Ministry and to the Pastorall office over this Church: The Pastors that Imposed Hands were The Rev^d M^r Sam^l Danforth; Nath^l Eells, Peter Thatcher, Timothy Ruggles and Daniel Lewes. The Charge was given Him by the Rev^d M^r Danforth, and y^e right hand of Fellowship by the Rev^d M^r Eels.

The Lord make Him a Painfull, Faithfull & Fruitfull Labourer in his Vineward.

A Catalogue of the Co^mmunicants or Members of the Church of + in Plymouth when Said ⁴ Leonard was Ordained.

¹ Altered from "and."

² At the top of p. [3] is written "Church Records."

³ Written over "m^r."

⁴ Written above another word, crossed out.

Males

Nath¹¹ Leonard Pastor
 Tho^s Faunce Elder
 George Morton Deacon Augst 2 1727
 Nath¹¹ Atwood Deacon
 Tho^s Clark Deacon March 20, 1726/7
 John Foster Deacon
 John Atwood Deacon
 Helkiah Tinkham
 Ephraim Morton
 James Clark Sen^r
 Eliezar Dunham
 Joseph King
 Nath Thomas Esq^r
 Eliezar Rogers
 Capt: Benj: Warren Dismist
 John Faunce Sen^r Dismist
 Stephen Barnebe Dismissed to Cape Cod
 Elisha Doten
 Ephraim Cole
 Josiah Finney
 Abiel Shertleff
 Tho^s Clark
 John Faunce jun^r
 Joseph Faunce
 Francies Adams
 John Morton
 Ignatius Cushing Dismist
 James Cob
 Tho^s Harlow
 Jabez Shertleff
 Ebinezar Curtice
 Isaac Lothrop Esq^r
 Haverland Torry
 W^m Dunham

Females

Patience Holmes widdow
 Sarah Tinkham the wife of Isaac
 Mehittabel y^e wife of John Doten
 Mary the wife of Nath¹¹ Atwood
 Dorothy the wife of Nath¹¹ Clark
 Rebeca the wife of Eph: Cole
 Hannah the wife of Eliezar Jackson
 Hannah the wife of Eliezar Ring
 Sarah Followwell widdow
 Bathshua the wife of Eliezar Dunham
 Sarah King widdow
 Margaret the wife of Abraham Jackson
 Mary the wife of John Carver
 Martha the wife of Sam¹¹ Harlow
 Mercy Holmes the wife of Nath¹¹ Sen^r
 Judah the wife of Joseph Faunce
 Rebecca the wife of Eliezar Morton
 Sarah Churchill widdow
 Sarah Bartlett widdow
 Johanna the wife of Deacon Morton
 Hannah the wife of Ephraim Morton
 Lidia Rider widdow
 Ruth Tinkham the wife of Helkiah
 Mary the wife of Benaja Prat
 Johannah the wife of Tho^s Howland
 Mary the wife of John Morton
 Mary the wife of Return Waite
 Hannah Morton Widdow
 Martha Doten widow
 Ruhamah the wife of ² Eli: Rogers ³
 Martha the wife of Jabez Shertleff
 Mary the wife of John Barns

[4] Church Records

Males

Samuel Dunham
 William Harlow
 Tho^s Howland
 John Thomas A: M: Dism^t
 Ebenezar Cob
 Tho^s Bartlett
 John Harlow
 Nath¹¹ Holmes Jun^r
 John Watson Esq^r

Females

Rebecca Clark Widdow
 Abigail The wife of John Faunce
 Hannah the wife Deacon Foster
 Sarah the wife of Deacon Atwood Jan. 23
 1725/6
 Hannah the wife of Eliezar Morton
 Hannah the wife of Elisha Doten
 Mary the wife of John Eastland
 Mary the wife of Nath¹¹ Thomas Esq^r

¹ Written above "John," crossed out.² Here a word is crossed out.³ This name is obscure.

Joseph Churchill
 Eliezar Churchill
 Sam¹¹ Totman Dismist
 Nath¹¹ Thomas¹ Ju^r 2
 Tho^s Croade Dismist
 Robert Barrow Dismst
 Isaac King
 Ephraim Kempton
 Samuel Kempton
 Judah West
 Josiah Carver

Number 54³

Since Added An: 1724

Augst 30th Thomas Foster

Anno 1725

Augst 15 Thomas Delano, remov^d
from Duxborough to usSep^r 5 M^r 4 John Sparhawk B: A:

March 18 Joshua Freeman

Anno: 1726

June 26 Stephen Churchill

26 Thomas Branch

July 17 Ebenezar Dunham

Sep^r 4 William HarlowNov^r 27⁵ Joshua Bramhall & Nath¹¹
Dunham

Anno 1727

Jan^{ry} 22 John RyderMay 21 John Harlow Jun^rJan^{ry} 21 Thomas Rogers

1728

May 12 Elkanah Totman⁶ from
Truro hither

July	14	{	Elkanah Churchill
			Robert Harlow
			Joseph Bartlet Baptised
			Samuel Ellis

1729

May 11 Nath Shurtlef Dismised
from Boston hither

Lidia Shertleff the wife of Abiel
 Hester the wife of Cap^t Warren
 Lidia the wife of Job Cushman
 Rebecca the wife of Tho^s Phillips
 Hannah the wife of Francies Curtice
 Martha the wife of Tho^s Morton
 Lidia the wife of John Faunce
 Mary the wife of Tho^s Clark
 Patience the wife of James Cob
 Jedidah the wife of Tho^s Harlow
 Mary the wife of Jabez Shertleff
 Sarah the wife of John Sturtevant
 Elizabeth the wife of Haverland Torry
 Abigail Billington widdow
 Johanna the wife of W^m Harlow
 Mercy the wife of Joseph King
 Elizabeth Phillips Maiden
 Sarah the wife of Tho^s Spooner
 Bethia the wife of Robert Barrow
 Dismist
 Mary Dunham widdow
 Mary Dunham Maiden
 Widdow Mary Osment
 Hannah Cotten the wife of Josiah
 Cotton Esq^r
 Mercy the wife of Ebinezar Cob
 Abigail the wife of Tho^s Bartlett
 Martha the wife of John Harlow
 Eleanor the wife of Nath¹¹ Holmes Jun^r
 Susanna the wife of Sam¹¹ Cornish
 Lidia the wife of Barnabas Churchill
 Rebecca Phillips⁷
 Hannah the wife of Joseph Silvester
 Desire the wife of John Churchill
 Deborah the wife of Rob^t Davis
 Johanna the wife of Nath¹¹ Holmes 3rd
 Hanna the wife of Eliezar Holmes
 Mary Lathly widdow
 Hannah the wife of Eliezar Churchill

¹ This name is somewhat uncertain, as it has been written over another name.² Here "3rd" is crossed out.³ This figure has been altered.⁴ Written over another word.⁵ Altered from "23" or "28."⁶ Here "removed" is crossed out.⁷ Here the words "now the wife of" are crossed out.

[5] Church Records

May	29	{ Elisha Holmes Solomon Silvester	Mary the wife of Francies Adams Pheobe the wife of Jacob Cooke Jun ^r Bethia the wife of John Churchill Jun ^r Anne the wife of Rob Finney Abigail Wethred Widdow Bethia Barrow widdow Patience the wife of Eliezar Holmes Ju ^r Anne the wife of Eliezar King Thankfull the wife of Isaac King Drowned Rebecca King maiden Bethia the wife of Sam th King Patience the wife of Ephraim Kempton Mercy the wife of Sam th Kempton Bethia the wife of Judah West Abigail Doten the wife of Josiah Johanna King } maidens Daugh ^{rs} of Sarah King } Sam th Anne Palmer Maiden Jane Faunce Maiden Thankfull the wife of Elisha Barrow M ^{rs} Sarah Little Widdow to y ^e Rev ^d M ^r Little Rebecca the wife of Thomas Withrell Jane the wife of John Crandon Johanna the wife of Thomas ¹ Holmes
		Anno 1731	
Sep ^r	26	Thomas Spooner	
		1732	
March	26	Samuel Bartlett	
		23	

number 101 ²

Since Added

Anno 1725	Aug st	15	Hannah the wife of Tho ^s Delano remov ^d from the Ch of Duxborough to us
	Sep ^r	12	Priscilla the Wife of Tho ^s Rogers
	Oct:	31	Hannah the Wife of Benjamin Ellis
Anno 1726	July	17	Mercy y ^e wife of W ^m Harlow
	Sep ^r	4	M ^{rs} ³ Sarah Warren Wid ^w
	Sep ^r	18	Sarah Clark maiden Daug ^r to y ^e Deacon
	Nov ^r	27 ⁴	Sarah the wife of John Finney
Anno 1727	April	23	Hope the wife of Nath ^l Thomas
	May	14	Elizabeth Cotton ⁵ & Baptised
	Sep ^r	24	Catherine White Wid ^w
	Nov ^r	12	Rebecca Morton wid ^w

¹ Here a word is crossed out.² Altered from "100" and written above "99," crossed out.³ Written above a word crossed out.⁴ Altered from "27," or perhaps "27" altered from "28."⁵ This name is somewhat uncertain.

Anno 1728	March	24	{ Ruth Dunham wife of Josiah & Baptized Hannah Faunce wife of Eliezar Deborah Morton wife of Eliezar Jun ^r
		31	
	May	19	Hannah Harlow Maiden Vide Page 1[3] ¹

[6] Church Records

Anno Dom 1724

Nov^r 29. upon the Desire of the North Ch in Scittuate the Ch. chose Maj^r Lothrop M^r Watson and Deacon Atwood to Accompany the Pastor to the Ordination of M^r² Shearjashub Bourn to the Pastorall office ouer y^t Church Ordain'd Decem^r 3^d

March 10 1724/5. At a Ch meeting at the Publick Meeting House Then Deacon Foster Cap^t Dyer, and M^r Ephraim Morton were chosen and Appointed Agents to Settle the Bounds of the Garden Spot given by M^{rs} Bridget Fuller and her son Samuel to the Church in Plymouth.

April 18. 1725 A Male Member of the Ch made Publick Confession for being overtaken with Drink

Anno Domini 1726

May 17 Considering the Great Decay of Religion and the Growthe of Impiety among us, a *Fast* was kept by this Church and Congregation that God would Revive his work and give Success to the Ministry of Religion. M^r Thatcher & M^r Perkins, Preached — It was followed with some Success, Severall Persons Presently after Joyned in full Co^mmunion with this Church, Deo Gloria

July 26. At a Church meeting Appointed at the Pastors House after having opened the meeting with Prayer, The Pastor moved to the Brethern of the Church to Consider Some things concerning the Subjects of Baptism, and the Chhs obligation to watch over y^e Children of y^e Chh: The Pastor Gave his Thôts in writing which were as follows

1.³ That Baptism as tis a Seal of the Cov^t of Grace, so tis a Seal of our admission into the visible Ch of our Lord Jesus†. Hence we read of being *Baptised into one Body* 1 Cor: 12. 13

¹ The second figure is torn off, but evidently the reference is to p. [13] of the text, or p. 238 of this volume.

² Here some letters are crossed out.

³ Here nearly a line is crossed out.

2. That the Infants of Such as are members of this Visible Ch are to be Baptised. Hence we Read, *The Promise is to you, and to your Children* Acts 2. 39. *Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not for of Such is the Kingdom of Heaven* Math 19. 14 And so

3. That Persons being Baptised in their Infancy and Living to adult age (without Scandall, but Sober and Pious, not cast out of the Ch but Remaining Members of it) upon their Renewing their Cov^t with God and his pple, may Demand Baptism for their Children, and it cannot Regularly be Denied them.

4. I do not find any where in the new testament that the Apostles required (before Baptism) all or any of the Adult Persons that they Baptised with their Housholds to come Imediatly to the Lords Supper, or even so much as Informed them of that Ordinance before they Baptised them with their Households — And so

5. Since the Scriptures are Silent in that Point we ought not to make it Such a Form of Co^munion as to Deny Baptism to Sober and well Disposed Persons that Desire to Enter into Cov^t with God and his pple, and their Children — nor to the Children ¹

[7²] Church Records Anno Dom 1724

The Sacrament administred Sep^r 6th, Octo 25th Jan^{ry} 17th March 21st

1725. June 6. August 1st Octo^r 2^d Decem^r 5th

1726 Feb: 6. Ap^l 17. June 5. August 7. Octo^r 2. Decem^r 4. Feb: 12

Vide Page 11 ³

Persons Baptized Anno 1724

August ⁴	9 th	Samuel the Son of Joseph Churchill
Aug st	16	Patience the Daughter of Ebinezar Holmes, and Elizabeth the Daughter of Eliezar Holmes
Aug st	28	Eleazar the Son of John Crandon and Eliazar the Son of Thomas Harlow, and Grace the Daughter of Edward Stephens
Aug st	30	Elizabeth the Daughter of Rob ^t Finney
Sep ^r	20	Experience the Daughter of Deacon Atwood

¹ Continued on p. [8] of the text, or p. 232 of this volume.

² Between pp. [6-7] of the text are inserted two leaves, the pages measuring 8 inches in height by 3½ inches in width. The four pages, which are not numbered, contain an index to "Robinsons book" — presumably the Rev. John Robinson's *A Iustificatio of Separation*: see p. 118 note 3, above.

³ The reference is to p. [11] of the text, or p. 236 of this volume.

⁴ Before this word, "Octo^b" is crossed out.

Octo ^r	4 th	Josiah the Son of Josiah Carver Peter the Son of James Landman Lois the Daughter of Elisha Doten Thomas the Son of Tho ^s Spooners.
Octo:	11	Ann the Daughter of James Clark Jun ^r
	25	Abner the Son of
Nov ^r	23	Abigail y ^e Daugh ^r of Ephraim Morton Jun ^r
	25	Josiah the Son of Josiah Cotton Esq ^r Baptized at his House
	29	Ebenezer the Son of Ebenezer Dunham
Decem ^r	20	Elisha y ^e Son of Elisha Barrow
Jan ^y	14	Nath ^l the Son of Nath ^l Thomas
March	27	1725 Dennis the Son of Thomas Sturmy
May	23	1725 John the Son of Tho ^s Witherell
June	13 th	1725 Lydia the Daughter of Tho ^s Clark Jun ^r and Sarah the Daughter of Sam ^l Kempton
June	20	1725 Lydia the Daughter of Judah West
August	1 st	1725 Caleb the Son of Solomon Silvester
August	22	1725 William the Son of Haviland Torry
Sep:	19	1725 Ruth and Keziah Daugh ^{rs} to Tho ^s Rogers
Oct:	31	1725 Hannah the wife of Benjamin Ellis and Adm ^d to full Com ⁿ
Nov ^r	28	1725 Anna the Daughter of Nath ^l Leonard y ^e Pastor of y ^e C ^h
Jan:	23	1725/6 William the Son of James Lanman

Anno Dom 1726

Feb:	6	John the Son of John Crandon
March	6	John the Son of John Sturtevant at his House
March	13	Joshua Freeman and admitted to full Com ^m union
March	19	Sam ^l the Son of Thomas Sturmy at his House
April	10	Ichabod the Son of Nath: Holmes
May	1	Phebe the Daughter of Eben: Holmes
June	5	William the Son of Judah West
June	5	Hannah y ^e Daughter of Benjamin Ellis
July	3	Isaac the Son of Barnabas Churchill
July	17	Marcy the Wife of Will ^m Harlow — and Lydia, Marcy & John the Children of Tho ^s Branch

[8] Church Records. Anno 1726

Children ¹ of such as have been Baptised in their Infancy and Lead Modest and Sober Lives, They Renewing their Cov^t thô they may not See their way clear to come Imediatly to the other ordinance. For

6. Such Persons may have Faith to offer up themselves and Children to God, and yet be under some Doubts and Scruples with Respect to an Imediate Progress to the Lords Table. None will doubt but that the *Jaylor* and *Lydia* and *Cornelius*² had Faith to

¹ Continued from p. [6] of the text, or p. 231 of this volume.

² Cf. Acts, x and xvi.

offer up themselves and Families to God, tho we dont know that they had then heard of this other Ordinance: We ought therefore to take heed that we do not Discourage weak minds¹ but Lead them tenderly and bring those on as far as they can go, for the Bruised Reed ought not to be broken nor the Smoaking Flax Quenched

I therefore Propose to you this Question

Question Whether It will be an Offence unto y^e Church for me after an Examination of Such Persons, and after having Propounded them to y^e Ch and Congregation, the Usual time, of those we Immediately Admit to full Communion, and there appearing nothing Vitious or Sandalous² in them, To admit them to a Renewall of their Cov^t, or to Baptism if they have not Already been Baptised, with their Children?

7. I likewise think that all Baptised Persons as they are Members of the Visible Ch of our Lord Jesus, are under the Watch and Care of the Ch and Subject to Discipline, and that they ought to be called upon to bring forth the Fruits of Repentance after they have been Guilty of Scandall and if they obstinately refuse, after Due Patiance & Admonition to Cast them out of the Church.

I Accordingly Propose to your Consideration —

Question What methods are to be taken with those among us that have been guilty of scandall, and not Restored by Repentance?

After Some Debate upon the First Question and some of the Brethren desireing further time of Consideration, The Pastor consented to wait some time for an answer.

After some Debate upon the Second Question The Church Voted, That Elder Faunce with the Deacons should Discourse with those Persons that had been guilty of Scandall and not Restored before my ordination, and Labour to bring them to Repentance, and return an Account to the Pastor that they may Suitably be Proceeded with

The Committee Chosen to settle the Bounds of the Parsonage Lott with M^r Cole returned an account of their Doings

The Pastor Concluded the Meeting with Prayer.

The Lord Lead us in to Truth and Preserve us in Peace and Enable us to watch over one another and those we are related to as becomes [†ians]

¹ This word is uncertain, having been altered.

² Here some words are crossed out.

[9] Church Records Anno 1726

Persons Baptized

- Augst 14 Stephen the Son of Elisha Doten, John the Son of Eben^r Dunham.
Sarah, Benjamin, William, Hannah, Marcy, Kezia The 6 Children
of William and Marcy Harlow.
- Sep^r 11 Ephraim, Nath^l Stephen, Zacheus, Benjamin the Five Sons of
Stephen Churchill, The Two First viz Ephraim & Nath^l Owned
the Cov^t Themselves
- Sep^r 25 Joshua the Son of Joseph Churchill
- Octo^r 2 Sarah Daughter to M^r John Sparhawk
- 9 Sam^l Son to W^m Harlow
- Octo^r 30 Sarah Daughter of N Leonard Pastor of y^s Church

Anno 1727

- Jan^{ry} 1 29 Nathanael Son to Nath^l Thomas
- March 12 Sarah Daughter to Tho^s Spooner
- 25 Jedidah Daught^r to Will^m Harlow, and Sarah, Pheobe & Josiah
children to John Finney
- April 2 Ten Children of John Ryder Viz Samuel, Ebenezar, Hanna[h]
John Sarah (these owned the Cov^t being Adult) Elizabeth Mary
Charles Jerusha Rebecca
- May 21 Dorothy, the Daüter of Josiah Carver
- 28 Elizabeth y^e Daüter of Judah West. & Willis the Son of Tho^s
Rogers
- June 4 John y^e Son of John Churchill & Lydia y^e Daughter of
- 11 Thankfull y^e Daüter of Tho^s Branch
- 18 Solomon Son to Ebenz: Morton. Marcy Daüter to Tho^s Withrell
- July 30 Rowland the Son of Josiah Cotton Esq^r
- Augst 13 Thomas ² the Son of Tho^s Foster
- 20 Joseph Son to Haviland Torry
- 27 Four Children of Joshua Bramhall viz Cornelius, Salvanus (these
own'd the Cov^t) Joseph and Martha
- Nov^r 5 Seth Son of Eben^{zr} Curtis
- 12 Five Children of Rebecca Morton Wid^w viz Mordacai Elizabeth
Nathaniel John Ichabod
- 19 Hannah Daughter of Elisha Barrow

Anno 1728

- March 3 Jeremiah the Son of Ebenezar Holmes
- 17 Abigail the Daughter of James Clarke
- 24 James the Son of John Crandon
- April 21 { Children of Josiah Dunham Amos, Hannah, Ruth, Lydia, Mary
Children of Eliezar Morton Jun^r
Children of Sam^l Ryder
- May 12 Joshua Son to Sam^l Totman
- June 9 Jerusha Daughter to

¹ This word has been altered.² Here "Foster" is crossed out.

- 16 Cornelius, Ebenezar, Patiance & Lydia the Children of Cornelius Holmes¹
 Mary Daughter of Tho^s Sturmy
 29 Hannah Daughter of M^r John Sparhawk

[10] Church Records. 1726

Nov^r 6th A Letter from Sev¹¹ Members of the Church of † in Sandwich (being read) desiring the Presence of the † Elder and Messengers of this Ch to Sit in Council with Sev¹¹ other Ches at Sandwith the 16th² day of this Month with regard to the Rev^d M^r Fessenden's Conduct &c The Ch made choice of Maj^r Lothrop and Deacon Foster as their Messengers to Accompany the Pastor. Seven Ches met at the Time Appointed, Viz. Taunton, Scituate, Brantrie, Midleborough, Rochester, Pembrook & Plymouth and after a hearing of the Case, The Council Adjourned till the Second Wensday in May next The Council met at the Adjournm^t and after a further hearing, adjourn'd to the House of Deacon Joseph Stockbridge in Pembrook on June 28. 1727. Who then and there came to a Result wherein they Judged and Declared the Rev^d M^r Fessenden unworthy to Sustain the office of a Pastor in the Ches of † and Disaproved of his Preaching any longer under the Scandall they found him guilty of, advising the chh in Sandwich to Dismiss him from his Pastorall Charge over them untill he Should remove the Scandall and evidence his Repentance to the Satisfaction of the Chhs by a Penitential and Publick Acknolegm^t

The Result was Signed by

Isaac Lothrop	Peter Thacher Mod ^r
John Foster	Nath ¹¹ Eells
Joseph Stockbridge	Sam ¹¹ Niles
Joseph Lord ³	Peter Thacher Jun ^r
John Wadsworth	Nath ¹¹ Leonard
Sam ¹¹ White	

which Result was Publickly Read in Sandwich and Deliverd to Deacon Bourn by Nath¹¹ Leonard and John Foster July 11. 1727.

[11] Chh Records

Sacramt Administred Anno Dom 1727. April 2^d June 11. August 6. Octo^r 8. Decem^r 3. Feb: 11

¹ This name is uncertain.

² Here "Cur^t" is crossed out.

³ Perhaps "Ford," the first letter having been altered.

A Continuation of Baptisms ¹Anno Domⁱ 1728

July	7 th	{ Ann Daughter to M ^r James Warren & Penelope his Wife Silas Son to Samuel Tupper of Sandwich
	14	Thomas Son to James Lanman
	21	{ Anna Daughter to Nath ^l Leonard, the Pastor of y ^s Chh Job Son to Eleazar Holmes
Aug st	28	{ Sarah Daüter to W ^m Harlow Priscilla Daüter to Elkanah Totman
	20	{ Ebenezer, Benjamin, Isaac, Robert, Sons to Robert Harlow Silvanus, Jerusha, Lydia, Zaccheus, Betty, Children of Joseph Bartlet
	25	Mary, Ester, Samuel, Remember, Jean, Children of Sam ^l Ellis
	Sep ^r 1	Amaziah, Muriah & Elkanah Children of Elkanah Churchill
	Nov ^r 7	Sarah Daughter to Joseph Churchill
Jan ^{ry}	24	Ruth Daugher of John Finney
	12	{ Pheobe Daug ^r of Will ^m Harlow Elizabeth & Margeret Daughters of Samuel & Elizabeth Bartlet[^t]
	March 16	Thankfull Daughter of Elisha Barrow
		Thankfull Daughter of Sam ^l Kempton
		Patiance Daughter of Eliezar Faunce

Anno Dom: 1729

April	6	Reuben the of
	20	Silas Son of Nath ^l Dunham
May	4	Isaac, Abigail, & William Children of Benj ^a Hanks
	11	{ James the Son of Elisha Doten James the Son of Josiah Carver
	18	{ Josiah the Son of Haviland Torrey Charles, James the Sons of Priscilla and Nath ^l Holmes 3 ^{tius}
	June 15	Rebecca Daughter of Elisha Holmes
July	6	Bethiah Daughter of Judah West
	12	Mary Daughter of Nath ^l Leonard (Ecc: Pas ^r) & Priscilla his Wife
	27	Four Children of William Lucas and Mehitabell his Wife viz William, Pheobe, Priscilla; Joseph
August	3	Sarah ² Daughter of Benj: Ellis
	17	Seth the Son of Eliezar Morton Jun ^r
Sep ^r	7	{ Elemuel the Son of Thomas Withrell Nathanael the Son of Thomas Harlow
	23	Ebenezer the Son of Gideon Ellis
	28	Jean the Daüter of Thomas Spooner
Octo.		
Nov:		
Dec ^r	21	Thomas Son of John Crandon
	29	Samuel Son of Sam ^l Totman vid Page 15 ³

¹ Continued from p. [9] of the text, or p. 235 of this volume.² Written above "Hannah," crossed out.³ The reference is to p. [15] of the text, or p. 240 of this volume.

[12] Church Records 1728

January 14. 1727/8 on the Lords day Evening the Pastor Publicly Moved to the C^{hh} to Meet at the Meeting House on Tuesday following The C^{hh} being meet on the Day Appointed, the Pastor layed before the C^{hh}

1. Sister Lidia Cushman's Case, and after Some debate thereon it was Voted that the Issuing of this Case be Suspended untill the next meeting.

2. It was also proposed wheather it might not be proper to make choice of One or more Deacons, to which the C^{hh} agreed and Voted that in convenient time, they Proceed and make choice of two Persons to that Office, one at Monm^t Ponds and the other in the Town. Nemine Contradicente.

The meeting was then Adjourned till the Monday Following at Twelve of the Clock at the Pastors House.

The Pastor as he opened the Meeting, so he concluded with Prayer and all things were maniged with Peace, The Lord preserve us in Peace and build us up in Holyness.

Jan^{ry} 22 The C^{hh} meet at the Pastors House According to the Adj^{mt} and Voted

1 That this C^{hh} now proceed to make Choice of Two Suitable persons to the Deaconship.

2. That the Persons chosen shall have the Major part of the Votes, or Voters now Present.

3 The Breathren¹ then brought in their Votes and the Lot fell Upon our Brother Haviland Torry, and our Brother Thomas Clarke. and there was no manifestation of any Uneasiness in the Choice.

4 The C^{hh} then Proceeded to Consider Sister Lydia Cushmans Case and Voted that althô the Evidences given in respecting her behaviour (on² the Last Monday of Augst 1727) raise a Strong Presumption in us that she was then overtaken with Strong Drink; yet Since there is no Posative Proof She had been Drinking Strong Drink at that time, & She declareing that Odd behaviour to be the Effect of Bodily Infirmary and not of Strong Drink, Wee cannot say Absolutly She was then overtaken with Drink. However, we are Exceeding Fearfull that she Imputes that to Bodily Infirmary which

¹ Written above "members," crossed out.

² Here "Aug" is crossed out.

was the Effect of Intemperate Drinking. And in the Name of Christ do advise and Exhort her to Consider that the Lord is a Jealous God, whose Eyes are as a Flaming Fire, who searcheth the Rains and the Heart and will give to every man according to his work. Whereupon she was Restored to Comunion with Some Serious Advice then given by the Pasor.

The Pastor then Concluded with Prayer.

Feb: 11 Following. At the close of the Forenoon Exercise the Pastor Publickly declared the Concurrance with the Chh's Choice of Brother Haviland Torry and Bro: Tho^s Clarke to the office of Deacons, and in the Name of the Chh desired them to Accept of that Office and take their places in the Deacons seat & ¹

[13] Members in full Comunion ²

Females

Anno 1728

May	26	Lydia wife of Corn ^{lus} Holmes & Baptised
June	16	Penalopoe the wife of M ^r James Warre[n]
July	14	Elizabeth wife of Joseph Bartlet
Sep ^r	29	{ Sarah wife of Joshua Bramhall Anna wife Gideon Ellis
Nov ^r	17	Elizabeth wife of Sam ^{ll} Bartlet Jun ^r

Anno 1729

March	30	{ Priscilla wife of Nath ^{ll} Holmes 3 ^{tius} Mary wife of Benja: Hanks
May	25	{ Susanna wife of Elisha Holmes Mehitabell wife of Will ^m Lucas
Sep ^r	28	Judith the wife of Jacob Tinkham
July	19	{ Sarah the wife of John Bartlet Hannah Shearman maid ⁿ Elizabeth Dunham maid ⁿ & Baptized

1731

March	28	Elizabeth Bartlett Maid ⁿ
May	16.	Elizabeth the wife of Joseph Pearce
July	25	{ Elizabeth the wife of Micajah Dunham Hannah wife of M ^r John Sparhawk Mary Leonard, maiden
Sep ^r	26	Marcy the wife of Sam ^{ll} Doten
Jan ^{ry}	2	Priscilla Faunce Maid ⁿ Eld ^{rs} Daüter
	30	{ Hannah the wife of Thomas Jackson Sarah the wife of Seth Barnes

¹ Continued on p. [14] of the text, or p. 239 of this volume.

² Continued from p. [5] of the text, or p. 230 of this volume.

1732

March	26	{	Hannah the wife of Sam ^{ll} Bartlet
			Lydia the wife of John Polden
			Elizabeth the wife of Hilkiah Tinkh[am]
			Sarah the wife of Hen: Littlejohn
June	11		Sarah LeBaron Wid ^w

44

[14¹] Chh Records 1728

and ² be assisting with the other Deacons as Occasion shall require till they be Regularly Installed. The Afternoon y^r took y^{re} places.

March 18. 1728 our Brother *Thomas Clark* lately Elected to the Deacons office Deceased.

June 11. A Fast was Kept by this Chh and Town in Behalf of the Rising Generation, that God would bring forward a work of Reformation among them M^r Eells and M^r Angier³ Preached—The Lord heard our Prayers and revived his work among our young pple.

God having in his Holy Providence withheld the Rain and Wasted the Fruits of the Earth in a great measure by an Early Scorching Drought another Day of Fasting and Prayer Was Appointed on June 30. to be kept by this C^{hh} and Town on Tuesday Following, and it Pleased God on the Monday Night to Send in Severall Moderate and Refreshing Showers without either Thunder of Lightning, it also rained on the Tuesday morning, almost all Wensday, and another Plentifull Shower on ⁴ Friday, so that the Earth was Plentifully Refreshed, Deo Gloria Oh that men would Praise the Lord

Decem^r 29, 1728 ⁵ Lords day Evening After Sermon the Pastor with the Concurance and Vote of the C^{hh} Proceeded to Ordain our Beloved Brother *Haviland Torrey* to the Deacons Office which was done by Prayer and Imposition of Hands. The Lord make him a wise and Faithful Servant. The Assembly was Entertained with a Discourse from 1 Tim: 3. 10. *Let them use the Office of a Deacon*

Feb: 1728/9. Upon the Desire of the Chh of Taunton, Deacon Torry & and M^r Thomas Howland where chosen Messenger to

¹ In the upper left-hand corner of the page the words "and be assisting" are crossed out.

² Continued from p. [12] of the text, or p. 238 of this volume.

³ This name is somewhat obscure.

⁴ Here "Thursday" is crossed out.

⁵ Here something is crossed out.

Accompany the Pastor to the Ordination of Mr Thomas Clap to the Pastoral Office over that Chh who was ordained Feb: 26. 1728/9.

Nov: 3. 1729. Then the Person mentioned in P. 12 art. 4.¹ Made Publick Confession of Intemperate Drinking and also of the Sin of Vehemently Denying the same (when before the C^{hh}) and Importing her odd behaviour to bodily Infirmary. and was Restored. and tis very Remarkable that she was brought to this Confession by being followed for some time² with Lingerig Sickness and such Strong Convictions and Distresses of Conscience that she could receive no Ease till she had Confessed her Complicated and Aggravated guilt. Oh that she may be Washed and Justified and Sanctified in the name of our Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Jan^y 7 1730/1 This Day was kept in Solemn Fasting and Pray that the Lord would Forgive our Sins and heal our Diseases, we being Visitted with a very Mortal Feaver

After Publick Service the C^{hh} was Stayed and the Elder with the Deacons Appointed to Treat with the children of the C^{hh} y^t had been guilty of Sandalous Falls Endeavour. to bring them to Repentance and Return an³ Account &c

The Lord render our Humitiations and Endeavours Effectual and make us a Reformed pple.

[15] Church Records 1730

Baptisms⁴

Jan:	27	1729/30	Margeret the Daughter of Josiah Cotton Esqr at his House
Feb:	15	1729/30	Patiance Daüter to Elisha Barrow
Ap ^l	19	1730	Thomas Son of Thomas Sturmy
Ap ^l	26		Ichabod Son of Ephraim Morton Jun ^r Deceas ^d and Susanah his wife
May	17		{ William Son of John Watson Esqr and Priscilla his Wife
			{ John Son of M ^r John Sparhawk
			{ Elisha Son of Thomas Foster]
	24		Hannah the Daughter of Jacob Tincom
	31		Sarah Daüter of M ^r James Warren
June	7		Thomas Son of Barnabas Churchill
	21		{ Hannah Daüter of Nath ^l Thomas Jun
			{ Abigail Daüter of W ^m Harlow
			{ William Son of Judah West
			{ John Son of John Washbun
			Joshua son of Elka: Totman

¹ The reference is to p. [12] of the text, or p. 237 of this volume.

² Here "by" is crossed out.

³ Apparently altered from "and."

⁴ Continued from p. [11] of the text, or p. 236 of this volume.

July	19	Josiah the Son of Wid ^w Ruth Dunham
	26	Mary Daüter of Timothy Burbank
Sep.	27	Sarah Daüter of Sam ^{ll} Ryder
Jan ^y	3 1730/1	Nathanael Son of Nathanael Leonard and Priscilla Daüter of Nath ^l Holmes 3 ^{ttus}
	10	Patiance Daüter of Elisha Barrow
	17	Thomas Son of Thomas Rogers
Feb.	14	John Son of Benja ^p Hanks
	21	{ Joannah the Dauter of James Lanman { John Son of John Finny

Anno Dom 1731

1731	April 11	{ Experiance Daughter of Deacon John Atwood { Elizabeth Daughter of Deacon Haviland Torrey { Rebecca Daughter of Samuel Kempton
April	25	{ Lothrop Son of James Clark { Ebenezar Son of Solomon Silvester
May	2	Mary Daüter of John Bartlett
June	6	Rebekah Daüter of Nicholas and Lydya Drew
July	20	Hannah and Joseph Children of Joseph and Elizabeth Pearce
July	4	Mary Daughter of Eliezar Faunce
Augst	1	{ Mary Dauter of Ebenezar Dunham { Benjamin Son of W ^m Lucas
	15	6 Children of Micajah and Elizabeth Dunham, Viz Joshua Dunham Abigail Tommas, Joannah Ward, Ester Dun- ham (these four were active in the Cov ^t themselves) Ephraim & Manasseh Dunham
Sep ^r	5	Samuel Son of Judah West
	12	Hannah Daughter of Samuel Bartlet
	19	Thomas Son of Gideon Ellis
Octo	17	Ebenezar Son of Ebenezar Curtis
	31	Benjamin Son of Cornelius Holmes
Nov.	15	William Son of Joseph ¹ Pearce at his House
	28	Samuel Son of Sam ^{ll} Doten
Decem	19	James Son of Joseph Bartlet

[16] Chh Records (1731)

Jan^y 24 1730/1 Three Children of the Chh made Publick Confession of the Sin of Fornication and were restored.

March 28 A Child of the Chh made Publick Confession of Fornication and was Restored.

Nov^r 14 Lords Day P: M: a Letter from the Second Chh of † in Bridgewater was Read to the Chh wherein the Presence of this Chh by Elders and Messengers was Desired to Assist in the Ordination of

¹ Written above "William," crossed out.

M^r John Shaw to the Ministerial office over that Chh the 17 Cur^t Justice Thomas and Dea: Atwood were appointed to attend with the¹ Pastor The Rev^d M^r Shaw was Ordained on S^d Day the Lord make him a Wise and Faithfull Servant.

Nov^r 21 1731 Lords Day P: M: The Pastor Appointed a Chh meeting to be held at his House the next Tuesday to Consider the Subjects of Baptism (vide Pages 6 & 8²) but the Chh not coming Generally togeather the Affair was adjourned 'till the Next Lecture day to be considered after the Lecture.

December 2 After Lecture the Chh was Stayed and passed these following votes

Voted 1. That Such Persons as have not been Baptized in their Minority Understanding the Doctrine of Faith and Professing their Assent thereto not Scandalous in Life and Solemnly Entering in to Cov^t before the Chh and Submitting themselves to the Government of Christ in his Chh (their Desire and Purpose being Publickly Propounded the usual time of them we receive to full Co^munion and Nothing Scandalous Appearing in them) may be Baptized without offence to this Chh

Voted 2. That Such Persons as have not been Baptized in y^r Minority Understanding the Doctrine of Faith and Professing their Assent thereto Not Scandalous in Life and Solemnly entering in to Cov^t before the Chh Giving up themselves and Children unto the Lord and do Submit themselves unto the Government of † in his Chh (their Desire and Purpose being Publickly Propounded the Usual time of them we receive to full Co^munion and Nothing Scandalous Appearing in them) may be Baptized both themselves and Children without offence to this Chh

Voted 3. That Such Persons as have been Admitted to the Ordinance See P. 18³

[17⁴] Baptisms

1731/2

Dec^r 26 Hannah Phillips Presented by Her Grand Parents Her Imediate Parents being both⁵ Deceased
Jonathan Son of Eliezar Holmes

¹ Here something is crossed out.

² The references are to pp. [6, 8] of the text, or pp. 230, 232 of this volume.

³ The reference is to p. [18] of the text, or p. 243 of this volume.

⁴ This page is not numbered in the original. ⁵ Here "Dead" is crossed out.

Feb 13 Timothy Son of Timothy Burbank
 March 5 Elkanah Son of M^{rs} Priscilla Watson wid^w of John Watson Esq
 Deceas^d

1732

April 2 { Three Grand children of the Wid^w Rebecca Cole viz: Mary Durfy,
 Rebecca and Sarah Cole
 John the Son of Ebenezer Holmes Jun^r
 Ap^l 9 { Experiance Daüter of the Wid^w Branch
 Abigail Dauter of John Washburn
 Ap^l 16 { The Children of Samuel Bartlet viz Samuel &c
 The Grand Child of Marcy Dunham Wid^w Ruth Strobridge
 The Children of Sarah Littlejohn Hannah William James
 Ap^l 24 { Priscilla Daüter of Nath^l Leonard
 Jabez Son of Jabez Holmes
 May 14 { Rebeckah the Daüter of W^m Harlow
 Elkanah the Son of Elka: Totman
 21 The Children of Thomas Jackson and Hannah his Wife Hezekiah,
 Thomas, Samuel
 June 11 { Five Children of Seth Barnes & Sarah his wife viz Elizabeth, Sarah,
 Seth, James, Mary
 Nathanael the Son of Mariah Morton Relict of Nathanael Morton
 June 18 Sarah Daugher of Jacob ¹ Johnson
 July 9 { Martha Daughter of Robert Brown
 Mary, Isaac, Sarah and Francis Children of Sarah Lebaron

[18] Chh Records 1731

The² Ordinance of Baptism in their Minority Understanding the Doctrine of Faith and Professing their Assent thereto, not Scandalous in Life and Solemnly owning the Cov^t before the Chh, Giving up themselves and Children to the Lord and do Subject themselves to the Government of † in his Chh (their Desire and Purpose being Publickly Propounded the Usual time of them we receive to full Co^munion and Nothing Scandalous Appearing in them) may have their Children Baptized without Offence to this Chh.

Voted 4. That Such Grand Parents as are in full Co^munion under whose I^mmediate care any of their 'Grand Children are ³ Devolved May have them Baptized without Offense to this Chh.

Voted 5. That those Children of the Chh that are Under Scandal be Notified to Appear before the Chh at the Next Chh Meeting.

Voted 6 That the Deacons take care and Notify them.

The Minister began and Concluded the Meeting with Prayer —

¹ Here a name, apparently "Johnson" or "Jackson," is crossed out.

² Continued from p. [16] of the text, or p. 242 of this volume.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

and thô Some of the Brethren Objected against Passing those votes Relating to Baptism yet the Affair was manniaged with a Calm Peacable Spirit on both ¹ Sides and the Votes Passed with a very Considerable Majority. O that God would Succeed our Endeavours for the Building up of the Kingdom of † and make those methods Effectual to the Salvation of many Souls.

Decm^r 12 A Letter from the Chh of Plymton Desireing the Presence of this Chh by the Elder and Messengers to Joyn in ² a Council ³ of Chhs sent for them in order to Ordain M^r Jonathan Parker to the Pastoral Office over that Chh was read and Coll: Lothrop, Deacon Forster and Deacon Torrey where Chosen to attend with the Pastor in the Affair. M^r Parker was Accordingly Ordained the 22: Ins^t the Lord make him a Faithfull Painfull and Successfull Labourer in his Vineyard.

Jan^{ry} 2. A child of the Chh made Publick confession of y^e Sin of Fornication and was Restored.

Janry 16 Two Persons that were Baptized in their Minority made Publick Confession of Fornication and were Restored. One of them was Baptized at Beverly

[18a.⁴] Persons that have Renewed their Cov^t

Feb 20 1731/2	Jabez Holmes	
	1732	{ Mariah Morton Wid ^w Elizabeth Bagnal Widdow, and Mary the wife of Ephraim Washbun, & Lydia Polden and Thomas Polden These four Persons Entered into Cov ^t and were Baptized
June 11		
July 9	Robert Brown and Priscilla his Wife	

[19.⁵] Chh Records 173¹/₂ ⁶

Jan^{ry} 16 173¹/₂ Lords Day after Publick Service the Pastor notified the Brethren of the Chh to meet at his House the next Tuesday to consider Some Affairs he had to lay before them. The Brethren Accordingly met the said day being the 18th Instant and made this vote upon the case of our Brother John Sparhawk viz

¹ Here the letters "th" are crossed out.

² Written above "with," crossed out.

³ Here "called" is crossed out.

⁴ This page, not numbered in the original, is here numbered "18a." for convenience.

⁵ The "1" in this figure has been torn off.

⁶ Altered from "1732."

It being Cōmonly Reported that our Brother John Sparhawk is Exceedingly given to Intemperate Drinking and whereas it Appears that he very much frequents Publick Houses of License for Strong Liquour and has been Lately Convicted of being overtaken with Strong Liquour, Twice before Justice Cushing of Kingston and once before this Chh. And whereas Several Single Evidences Appearing who Declare that they have heard him Curse and Sware we also Exceeding fear he is guilty thereof — For all which things tis our Opinion that he be¹ Suspended from Special Ordinances till there be Some Vissible Reformation in his Life and Conversation.

The Chh also made this vote upon the case of our Sister Lydia Cushman.

Sister Lydia Cushman being again Convicted of Excessive Drinking, tis our Opinion that she be Suspended from Special Ordinances till there be Some Reformation in her Life and Conversation.

These Persons were then called in before the Chh and suspended from special ordinances 'till there be some Reformation in their Lives and Conversations and were Solemnly Counsell'd and Admonished by the Pastor: May God set home the Censures laid upon them and Rebuke given them and make his own Ordinance Effectual for their Recovery and Salvation. and Let them that Stand take heed lest they fall. The meeting as it began So it was Concluded with Prayer.

A 3^d vote was called in these or in Words to this Purpose² viz If this Chh knows any thing Scandalous in Mary Taylor that they think propper she should be called before the Chh to make Answer to it, Please to Manifest it by the Usual Sign. It passed in the Neg:³

Jan^{ry} 23. Two persons that stand in relation to the Chh made Publick Confession of Fornication and were Restored

Feb: 6. A person that stood in Relation to the Chh by Baptissm made Publick confession of Fornication and was restored. [20⁴]

[21⁵] Chh Records 173 $\frac{1}{2}$

A Chh Meeting being Appointed to be Feb: 3. at the Meeting House after Lecture, the Chh was Accordingly Stayed

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Written above "effect," crossed out.

³ This paragraph is written in the margin.

⁴ This page, the recto of p. [21], is unnumbered and blank.

⁵ The "2" in this figure has been torn off.

The Pastor Desired the Deacons to return the Names of Such of the Children of the Chh as were under Scandal and that they had notified to Appear before the Chh at this Time and place. the Persons whose Names they Returned were Seth Barnes, Joseph Bartlet and his wife and Benjamin Ryder.

Benjamin Ryder Appeared and Confessed he was guilty of Fornication but discovered an unwillingness to give Satisfaction because he something Scrupled the Validity of his Infant Baptism; But maniaed Himself Decently and with Moderation and declared that he did not absolutely Refuse and Desired he might have an Opportunity to Discourse with the Minister on that point. which was readily granted.

Seth Barnes thô he was at Lecture yet withdrew and did not Appear before the Chh nor Sent in any reason of his so doing. the Chh therefore Voted that the Deacons Discourse with him again and endeavour to bring him to a sense of his Duty.

[I]t was also moved that the vote passed at the Last Chh meeting Respecting [M]ary Taylor might be Reconsidered, But the Chh being divided about it, this motion [w]as referred for further consideration.

Joseph Bartlet and his wife their Case was Deferred

This as at our Chh meetings was begun and Concluded with Prayer. May the wise and Holy God Preside over and Direct this Chh in all its Administrations, Continue Peace and promote Holyness and good Order &c

March 30 1732 The Chh being Stayed after Lecture took into Consideration the¹ Case of Mary Taylor (the Case was this, In Six months and Six Days she was Delivered of a Child after Marriage but had escaped Presentm^t at the Court by the Grand Jury; the greater part of Chh were of Opinion that Notwithstanding she ought to be called before the Chh to make answer for herselfe and whereas there had been no Trial of her case wⁿ that vote was Passed in Page 19² A Vote whas now called wheather that Vote should be Reconsidered and it passed in the Affermative by a Considerable majonity

[Ju]ne 18 1732 Lords Day. Our Brother Eliezar Dunham Sen^r

¹ Altered from "these."

² The reference is to p. [19] of the text, or p. 245 of this volume.

being ¹ Visited with Lingering Sickness and being Doubtfull of his Recovery Sent his Confession and Desired he might be Restored to the Fellowship of the Chh which being Read was readily granted.²

[22²] A [] to the Church of Christ att Plym[out]h

Imp^r a Great bible with bases of Brasse in the Costody of our Pastour m^r Cotton

Item Josephus history of the warrs of the Jewes in the Costody of our Elder m^r Cushm[an]

Item M^r Ainsworths Annotations on the fue books of Moses Lente to the Church att Eastham att theire p^rteing from our Church

Given by Edward Barcker Calvins Comentary on the hebrewes and Monseer due P[] trunes of Christian Religion in the Costody of Nathaniell Morton Sein^r of Plymouth

Ther is another of Monseire due Pliseys trunes of Christian Religion ⁴ which was Given Likewise by m^r Attwood; I suppose it may be alsoe att Eastham;

Eusebious Ecclesiasticall history for p^rsent in the Costody of our Pastour m^r Cotton

M^r Calvins Institutions; in the Costody of m^r Cushman our Elder

M^r Calvin on Timothy and titus in the hands and Costody of our said ⁵ Elder;

diuers other smale ⁶ bookes belonging to the Church in a box in the Costody of our Pastour m^r Cotton ⁷

March 15th 1724/5. Then Received of Elder Faunce & Deacon Foster the Following Mentioned Books which belong to the Ch of † in Plymouth, Rec^d p Me

N LEONARD viz

- 1 One English Bible, Folio with Brass Clasps
- 2 The work of W: Tindall. J: Frith & Doc^r Barns in one Fol:
- 3 Augustin of the Citty of God, Folio

¹ Here a letter or two are crossed out.

² The entries in the hand of Mr. Leonard end here.

³ This page (the verso of which is blank) is badly mutilated, the page-number (if there was one) and a marginal entry being torn away.

⁴ Here "weh" is crossed out.

⁵ Written above "late," crossed out.

⁶ Here a word, apparently "boke," is crossed out.

⁷ To this point, the entries on this page are in the hand of Nathaniel Morton.

4. Arthur Golding of the Trueness¹ of the Christian Religion
Quarto

5 A Book Shewing the Life and Manners of true Christians
Quarto

6 The true Coppy of a Prologue Supposed to be written by J:
Wickliffe Oct

7 M^r Robinsons Vindication of Separation Quarto Lent to m^r
Co[] Returned

8 Josephus Fol: an old Book²

[Ja]n^y 25th 1760 Then Received of the Reverend m^r Nathanael
Leonard the Books mentioned in the above Catalogue

JOHN TORREY

Jan^y 31. 1760 Then Received of the Rev^d M^r Nath^l Leonard
the C^{hh} Records in 2 Vo^l

CHANDLER ROBBINS Pastor

¹ Written above "Trunes," crossed out.

² This entry is in the hand of Nathaniel Leonard.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

VOLUME I

PART V¹

Part of the Records of
of the 1st Church of
Plymouth.
Massachusetts²

[1] Church-Records Anno 1682:

Lords supper administred: March, 1[] July, 9: August, 6:
September, 3: October, 1: [] December, 3: February, 25:

Members dyed

Benajah Prat, March, 17: in his s[] Sarah, the wife of Thomas []

Children [baptized]

Patience, daugh[] baptized, March, 19: [] Theophilus,
son of Jo[h]n Cotton] Reliance, daughter of [] Benajah, son of

¹ Part v (not including the title, for which see note 2, below) contains 16 leaves, or 32 pages. Some of the pages measure $8\frac{1}{8}$ inches in height by 6 inches in width, but others are smaller. Some of the leaves are badly worn, especially at the corners, and the original page-numbers have in many cases partly or wholly disappeared. The pages, however, have been numbered in pencil, and this notation is followed in the present volume. As the paper of Part v differs from that of Parts i-iv, and as it has no watermark, Part v could not have been a portion of the original vellum-covered volume: cf. p. 3 note 1, above.

Part v is wholly (except as noted on pp. 249 note 2, 271 note 1, below) in the hand of the Rev. John Cotton, and evidently contains the notes (made no doubt at the times of entry) from which Mr. Cotton compiled the "further account" which forms Part ii. As Part v begins with 1682 and ends with 1693, and thus covers only twelve years of Mr. Cotton's pastorate, presumably there were once in existence other pages which have since disappeared.

² This title, written on a piece of paper (pasted to p. 1) measuring 8 inches in height by $6\frac{1}{8}$ inches in width, is in a much later hand. The verso is blank.

Deborah [] Isaac, son of Samuel [] James, son of John & Martha [Cobb] Isaac, Rebekah, Mary, the [children of Isaac Cushman] Ebenezer, Jerimiah th[] Mercy, daughter of Jo[] Abigail, daughter of Abigail [Bryant] Hannah, Manasseh, Ephraim [Joanna, Ruth, George] Timothy, the seven children of George Morton] Joanna, the daughter of John [Morton]¹

April, 16 the Elders warned the chur[] after Lecture; Accordingly the [] The case propounded & agitated [] church of watertowne, now livi[] from that church to ours) [] which were then read to [] William Paybody of th[] agitation, the church [] comitting² the diffe[]rke manifest he[] to heare the [] [2] []deavours befor Reconciliation, they see not []m to communion with us at the Lords Table. [] church being in the Pastors house was called []ir conclusion, & manifested his []omote it with W: Paybody, who [] Pastor his thankfull embracing []ming next weeke to []rmed by the Pastour of [] to attend the motion. [] 29 of those who [] 9: to attend []mfortably []hurch was [] acquainted []eing left under []ren concerned []en voted, that []nion with us was [] communion []rch of watertowne []dation, which were []e church [] from the church of watertowne. [] was now Baptized. [] Cushman. [] Tinkham. []: Mercy Dunham []me together on wednesday next: []son & his wife were² called forth, []onciliation, the brethren [] for a full []manifestation [3] 1683:

Lords supper: April, 1: May, 6: June, 3: July, 8: August, 5: September, 2: october, 7: November, 4: December, 9:

Members dyed

Mary Bartlett, widow, March, 27: in her 73d yeare. Mrs Margaret Winslow, the Relict of Mr. Josiah Winslow, Deacon of the church at Marshfeild, in her widow-hood removed hither, & having lived in communion with us about 7 yeares, she dyed, September, 28: being about 75 yeares of age, she was a very choice christian. Martha Nelson, widow, December, 20: in her 64th yeare.

¹ Cf. Mayflower Descendant, i. 141, 144, 209, 210, v. 53.

² This word is uncertain.

January, 23: there was a church-meeting attended in the Pastors absence, after the conference, in which the Propositions made by the Pastour the meeting before were read, but the agitation & Issue of that meeting had best be buried in silence. see the end of page 5¹

April, 15: William Harlow & Lydia his wife were called before the church, & charged with uncleannesse etc their² child being borne within six weekes after marriage, & for disobedience to parents, engaging one to another without knowledge & against consent of parents, sinfully also hiding & denying their guilt, they manifested soe much Repentance for all charged, as that the church would not reiect them only voted Admonition, which was applied by the Pastour

Children Baptized

Eliezer, son of Eliezer & Mary Churchel (borne Feb: 23: 1682:) baptized, April, 1: John, son of Samuel (Junior) & Sarah King: John, son of Mercy Holmes: Samuel, son of Hannah Harlow. Mercy, daughter of Mary Rickard: Sarah, daughter of Sarah Lobdell. John, son of John Dunham Junior: Samuel son of Samuel Dunham Junior. Peter, son of Elizabeth Tinkham. Thomas, son of Hannah Bartlett. Sarah, daughter of Samuel Rider. Samuel, son of John & Lydia Nelson. Benjamin, Sarah, the two children of Deborah Burden of the church of Barnstable: Ephraim, son of Esther Tinkham. John, son of Judith Faunce:

February, 17: the Elders desired the church to meete Feb: 20: after Lecture, the ch: then met, after some discourse, a vote was of the major part of the ch: to put our differences to some ches for advice; after this the Elder moved that the magistrates being shortly to meet here, might be desired to heare & advise us, this seemed to be generally consented to though not put to vote.

[4] 1683

Members admitted

Mary, wife of John Rickard Junior. Sarah, wife of Isaac Lobdell. Samuel Dunham, Junior. Mary, wife of Nathaniel Wood. Priscilla Cooper, widow, dismissed to us from the church of Barnstable. Esther, wife of Ephraim Tinkham Junior.

¹ The reference is to p. [5] of the text, or p. 253 of this volume.

² Altered from "the."

June, 17: Samuel Dunham senior was called forth to manifest his Repentance publickly in order to his Reconciliation with the church, his speech was pænitentiall & well tending to satisfaction, but one Brother alleadged some matter of scruple upon his spirit as to the sincerity of his Repentance, intimating he had both spoken & done something inconsistent therewith, upon which it was concluded to respite the issue of the matter a fortnight longer.

June, 27: at the conference-meeting, it was propounded to the church concerning Sam: Dunham; sundry of the Bretheren spake charitably concerning him that Brother who before had spoken in publick, said he should rest in the act of the church:

At this time, it was propounded by the Pastour to the church, whether they tooke themselves bound to looke after church-children that lived else where, the bretheren roundly exprest themselves in the Affirmative; the case of Bithiah Sandy of Bristoll was mentioned who was guilty of fornication with him, whom afterward she married; the church concluded it necessary she should¹ be Admonished by the Elders in their name for her sinne.

July, 1: Samuel Dunham senior was Reconciled to the church.

July 8: after the publick worship was ended, the Elders desired the church to stay; the Pastour read letters of Admonition for Bithiah Sandy, the church then voted, those letters should be sent by the Elders in their name to her, as their rebuke of her for her sinne. [5]

July, 15: the Elders propounded to the church to set [apart] a day for fasting & prayer, partly with reference to th[e] great drought on the southerne townes,² & our owne danger of a thin harvest if God should much longer withheld raine from us; partly for persecutions of saints abroad: it was left to consideration till the next Lords day.

It pleased God to send such plentifull raine, that on July, 22: the church agreed to set apart, the Thursday following as a day of Thanksgiving for soe seasonable a mercy, which, July, 26: was accordingly attended.

September, 2: Letters from the church of Barnstable were read, signifying their desires for messengers from our church to be present etc at the ordination of their Pastour, Mr Jonathan Russell, on Sep: 19: the church chose the Pastour & Elder, & one of the Bretheren,

¹ Here a word, perhaps "she," is crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

either secretary Morton, or Deacon Finney or Deacon Morton to goe along with the Elders as their Messenger also.

September, 16: it was signified to the church, that neither the Elder nor any of the bretheren above nominated could goe to Barnstable, & therefore other Bretheren were propounded, namely, William Harlow, Andrew Ring, Joseph Howland, any one of these, the church by their silence consented to be their messenger.

The Pastour & Leift: Joseph Howland only attended this service, & Sep. 23: the Pastour gave an account to the church in publick of the comfortable carrying on & issue of the worke in the day of ordination with great peace & unanimity.

October, 14: the Elders propounded to the church to set apart, the Thursday following, viz, oct: 18: as a day of fasting & prayer, on the account of the troubles of Gods people in England etc as also to humble our selves under Gods Judgments on this land in blastings, meldeus & in sundry places great drought, & floods that destroyed much of the fruits of the earth; the church did unanimously consent to the motion & publickly attend the duty at the time exprest

January, 6: the Elder intimated desires from the Pastors motion, that the church would come generally together to the conference; Accordingly, Jan: 9: the church met & after the conference the Pastor propounded some greivances which he desired redresse of or release from office-worke, the Elder shewed discontent, & 1 or 2 more of the Bretheren, & there was noe vote or issue put to anything propounded: Looke back to page 3¹ [6] 1684:

[T]he church met, March, 7: & after hearing some counsell from our magistrates in the meeting house, the church went to the Pastors house, & agreed & voted to send to the churches of Barnstable, Taunton, Bridgwater, Duxburrough, Marshfeild to send their messengers in way of a councill to consider & helpe us with reference to our present differences, the meeting to be March, 19: & the church to provide for their Entertainement & to defray the charge thereof; the Pastors wife was then publickly desired to see to their Entertainement, & they would satisfy for all disbursments thereabouts.

March, 9: (which was the first day of our meeting in the new Meeting-house) the Pastour preached upon John, 17: 21: 22: 23: & in the afternoone sermon, he moved the church to set apart a day

¹ The reference is to p. [3] of the text, or p. 251 of this volume.

for fasting & prayer, to seeke mercy from ¹ God, & a gracious issue of our present trouble; after which the Elder manifested his scruple thereabouts, soe did some of the Bretheren; Leift: Morton shewed great discontent at the Pastors preaching that day, intimating as if they had not the food of their soules, because he heard [s]oe much in publick of differences, & that things were blowne up more then he heard all the weeke besides, with sundry expressions deeply reflecting upon the Pastours preaching that day; Will. Harlow did in such a manner expresse himselfe murmuring at the soe preaching: In Conclusion, the Pastour said (After the Elder had said it should not offend him if any did attend such service) that Thursday next, March, 13: he had dedicated to that solemne service in his owne house & all that pleased should be welcome thereunto. The day was through grace comfortably kept by many of the bretheren & sisters.

Children Baptized

William, son of Samuel Dunham Junior: Joseph, son of John & Mary Rickard Junior: Benajah, son of Joseph Dunham. Bartholomew, son of Thomas Cushman Junior & Abigail his wife. John, son of ² Nathaniel & Mary Wood. William, son of Samuel Rider: Rebekah, daughter of Joanna Morton: Patience, daughter of Patience Holmes: Mariah, daughter of Jonathan & Abigail Prat: Martha, John, 2 children of Esther Tinkham: Priscilla, daughter of Thomas & Jane Faunce: Mercy, daughter of Sarah Dotey: Nicholas, son of Hannah Drue: Margaret, daughter of Sarah Churchel: Joh[n], son of Hannah Harlow: [7] 1684:

March, 18: the councill met, & the next day Entrance was made upon the worke, the councill then gave the church some advice, to endeavour to issue our differences by friendly debate amongst our selves, attempts that way prooved not successfull; the day following was a publick agitation of the church before the councill, after which, March, 21: the councill gave their conclusion subscribed with their hands, which was gratefully accepted by the church: the Lords day, March, 23: the³ Pastour read the sentence of the councill to the whole congregation; the Elder then moved to set apart a day of Humiliation, & left it with the church to consider of till the next Sabbath:

¹ Written above a word, perhaps "for," crossed out.

² Here a name is crossed out.

³ Here a word, perhaps "our," is crossed out.

March, 30: by reason of a Fast appointed by the court, the church-fast was deferred till afterward.

April, 20: the Elders stayed the church, & propounded to set apart the friday sevensnight following, viz. May, 2: for¹ Fasting & prayer with reference to what had past in the late day of temptation, in order to our more comfortable attendance to & communion at the Lords supper, which the Pastour propounded to be the Sabbath immediately succeeding the Fast day mentioned; the church readily & universally consented then to attend the Fast: the Pastour desired the Elder to conclude with prayer, & he did soe:

May, 2: the day of Fasting & Prayer was solemnly attended by the whole church in the Pastours house. The Pastour first prayed & preached, then M^r Fuller prayed: Afternoone the Elder prayed, Secretary Morton, Deacon Finney & Thomas Faunce; then Letters were read from Bithiah Sandy to the church, manifesting her² Repentance for the sin which the church sent her Admonition for the last yeare: the church well accepted her letters:

Deacon Morton spake to the church about Intemperance, & long sitting at ordinaryes etc the Elders & Bretheren that spake to it all agreed in their Testimony against those evils & their desires that God would helpe all to more care & watch fullnesse in all respects: the 122 Psalme was sung, & the Pastour minding of the Lords supper to be the next Sabbath, he then ended with prayer; Blessed be God for this comfortable day of peace etc [8] 1684:

Lords supper administred: May, 4: June, 15: August, 24: October, 5: November, 16: February, 1:

June, 22: the Elder desired the church to give meeting at the conference the next wednesday; Accordingly they did, June 25: After conference the Elder propounded to know the minde of the church, viz, whether they were willing to deale with offending church-seed in private before the church only? the Answer of the bretheren generally was, that³ they Judged, those whose sin was publick should be publickly dealt with for it, & they were willing to continue their antient practise in that respect: the Elder then propounded to them, whether they were willing the Blessing should

¹ Here a word, perhaps "the," is crossed out.

² This word has been altered.

³ Altered from "they."

be pronounced on sacrament-morning[s] because some without were offended that it was not done; ther[e] appeared noe forwardnesse in any to promote that practic[e] in some there was scruple about it, soe it ended at present.

July, 13: William Shirliffe was called forth before the church in the open Assembly, to answer for his sin in carnall fellowship with her whom afterwards he married, his child being borne 26 weekes after marriage; William shewed little sense of sin, the church voted, & the Elder laid him under Admonition, for his sin, & for the pride & hardnesse of his heart, & soe it was left for the present.

July, 27: the church was desired to stay after the publick worship, that if any had any Just exception against admission of old Goodm[an] Bryant into the church, they might then expresse it; the Issue of the Agitation was, that nothing appeared to hinder his calling forth to declare himselfe the next Lords day.

October, 5: Letters were publickly read from the church upon the North River in Scittuate, desiring our church to send their Pastour & messengers to be present at the ordination of M^r Thomas Mighell for their Pastour, the church sent Elder Cushman & M^r Joseph Bradford, who attended that service with their Pastour, on october, 15:

The Pastour in January began to catechise the children of the church & towne, in Mr Perkins's catechisme:

Members dyed

Abigail, the wife of Jonathan Prat, August, 17: being newly entered into¹ her 40th yeare: Giles Rickard senior, February 1/2: at 87 yeares of age:

Members admitted

Stephen Bryant senior: M^r John Cotton the Pastors son.

[9] Church-Records, Anno 1685

Lords Supper administred: March, 1: April, 5: May, 3: June, 7: July, 5: August, 2: September, 6: october, 25: November, 22: February, 28:

Children Baptised

Stephen, son of Eliezer & Mary Churchel, borne February, 16: 1684: baptized, March, 15: John, son of Mary Rickard Junior, borne Feb: 3:

¹ The words "being newly entered into" are written above "in," crossed out.

baptized, March, 15: following: Martha, daughter of Sarah Lobdel, borne, Feb: 24: baptized, March, 29: Sarah, daughter of Isaac Cushman: Nathaniel, son of Desire Southworth Eliezer, son of Samuel & Sarah King Junior. Phebe, daughter of John & Phebe Morton: William, son of Deborah Burden of Barnstable church, she lives at Middlebury. Isaac, son of Esther Tinkham: Eben-ezer, son of Deborah Barrow. Benjamin, son of Joseph & Elizabeth Howland: Joanna, daughter of John & Lydia Nelson. Joanna, daughter of Elizabeth Tinkham.

May, 17: the Elders stayed the church & propounded to them, a motion to sing Psalme, 130: in another Translation, because in M^r Ainsworths which wee sang, the Tune was soe defficult as few could follow it; the church consented thereunto, & on May, 24: sang, Ps: 130: in the Translation used by the churches in the Bay:

Member dyed

M^r Nathaniel Morton, Secretary, June 3^d in his 73d ye[are]

Joseph Bartlet having wickedly scand[a]lized the Pastour, the church met August, 20: to heare & consider of the [m]atter, the Elder & church greatly condemned his wickednesse & solemnly vindicated their Pastour, & ordered the slanderer to appeare publicly before the congregation to give satisfaction, which he did, Aug: 30: & a large confession of his sin was presented & read by the Elder, which he owned, as also his humble letter to the Pastor, the church then laid him under solemne Admonition.

November, 1: the Elders propounded to set apart Nov: 11: for Thanksgiving [for] continuance of spirituall & civill liberties, a good harvest notwithstanding a th[reatning] drought, & for health; which was consented to & attended. [10] 1686:

[L]ords supper administred. April, 4: May, 30: July, 4: August, 8: September, 19: October, 17: November, 28: January, 23:

Members admitted.

Margarett, the wife of Abraham Jackson Junior, dismissed, from the church at Eastham. Elkanan Cushman. Susanna, wife of Samuel Gardner. Isaac Lobdell. Mrs Joane Hart, recommended & dismissed to us from the church at Taunton. James Warren, then baptized also: Lydia (second) wife of Robert Barrow. Giles Rickard Junior & Hannah his wife: Elizabeth, the wife of John Dotey: Benjamin Bantam. Ephraim Morton Junior & Hannah his wife. Lydia, wife of Jacob Cooke.

Children Baptised.

Eliezer, son of John & Mary, Rickard senior; it dyed the same weeke: Elkanah, James, Allerton, Elizabeth, the 4 children of Elkanan Cushman. Samuel, Nathaniel, the two sons of Susanna Gardner. Elizabeth, daughter of Mercy Holmes: Barnabas, son of Sarah Churchel. Mercy, daughter of Judith Rickard: Elisha, son of Lydia Barrow. Mary, daughter of Samuel Dunham Junior. Lydia, daughter of Samuel Rider: Priscilla, daughter of Hannah Harlow. Elizabeth, daughter of Joanna Morton: Ichabod, son of Isaac Cushman. John, Edward, Jacob, Elizabeth, Isaac, Samuel, Elisha, the seven children of Elizabeth Dotey. Abraham, son of Margaret Jackson.

Member dyed

Phoebe, the wife of John Morton, June $\frac{1}{2}$ being 28 years of age & four moneth[s]

On Nov: 28: Deacon Morton propounded to the church, the need of another Deacon; Deacon Finney being dise[n]abled, the Elders accepted the motion, the church was desired to ripen their thoughts thereabouts for the next Sabbath: on Dec: 5: the church was stayed, after the Pastor had prayed, each Elder & Brother generally nominated for choice, the major part of the then Voters chose [T]homas Faunce, divers of the bretheren being absent, the compleating of [t]he Election was deferred till their mindes also should be knowne.

See the latter end of the next Page:¹ [11] 1686:

July, 25: the Elders propounded the desires of John Dunham, that the church would grant him letters of dismission to the church at Barnstable, where his Residence now was; the church granted his desires & the Elders sent his Dismission to that church.

The same day, inasmuch as there had bin a great fame, as if Mrs Dorothy Clarke, (formerly Grey) a sister of the church, had bin guilty of some breach of Rule in the management of the differences, betwixt her & her now Husband, Nathaniel Clarke, the Elders having before spoken with her & found her willing to attend the Rule, she then presenting us with a confession of her failing in words & then in writing, the Elders [t]hen brought the matter publickly before the Church, & read her confession, which she publickly owned to be hers, with which the church declared themselves to be

¹ The reference is to p. [11] of the text, or p. 259 of this volume.

well satisfyed: The Elder then speaking a few serious words to Nath: Clarke as a child of the church, he brake forth into a wicked passion & spake vile words, intimating, as if the church would cleare the guilty & condemne the innocent, abusing also Pauls words to the mariners, as if it were better & nearer to salvation to be out of such a church then in it etc which¹ carriage & words of his were highly offensive, & soe declared by the Pastour to be, but at the present it was thought meete not further to proceed thereupon.

On December, 19: after the publick worship was ended, the church was stayed; & after the Elder had prayed, the rest of the Bretheren who were before absent or had not voted for a Deacon, were called upon to nominate their choice, which accordingly they did, & the Major part of the then voters were for Brother Thomas Faunce, soe that it being declared, that if any Brother had ought to object why said Bro: Faunce should not be established in the office of Deacon, they had their liberty to speake & not one objecting, it appeared that the [c]hurch was very unanimous in this motion, the Pastour then said, [t]hey would then proceed to his ordination the next comfortable Sabbath:

On December, 26: Thomas Faunce was ordained Deacon of this church, the Pastor prayed, & then gave the charge, & then the Elder prayed, & all [t]his was done, whilst the hands of the Eldership were upon him: this Deacon was in the 40th yeare of his age when he was called to this office. [12] Anno 1687:

Lords supper administred: March, 6: April, 17: June, 19: July, 24: September, 4: October, 2: November, 6: December, 4: January, 29:

Children Baptized

William, Lydia, the 2 children of Lydia Cooke. Hannah, Ephraim, John, Joseph, Eben-ezer, the five children of Ephraim Morton Junior & of Hannah his wife. Samuel, son of Isaac & Sarah Lobdell (borne February, 17: 168 $\frac{6}{7}$;) was baptized, March, 27: 1687: Susanna, Thomas, the 2 children of Thomas Clarke. Elizabeth, Thomas, the 2 children of Lydia Harlow. Elizabeth, daughter of Nathaniel & Mary Wood. Mercy, daughter of John & Mary Rickard senior. Thomas, son of Deacon Thomas Faunce & of Jane his wife. Jedidah, daughter of Eliezer & Mary Churchel. Daniel, son of Joseph Dunham. Samuel, son of Thomas Cushman Junior & of Abigail his wife. Lemuel, son of Hannah

¹ Here something is crossed out.

Drue: Mehetabel, daughter of Patience Holmes. Elizabeth, daughter of Desire Southworth: Susanna, daughter of Susanna Gardner. John, son of John Morton.

March,¹ 20: the Elders made a motion publickly to the church to set apart a day for Fasting & Prayer, wherein to humble our soules before God under his frownes last yeare in drought, & in the long, cold uncomfortable winter, & in Epidemicall Coughs & colds now upon us & the small pox in some places: & to beg of God to blesse² us with a comfortable, spring, seed time & harvest, & blesse our occasions by sea & land, & continue our spirituall priveledges, that the word of the Kingdome may not be taken away from us, & that God would in mercy remember his persecuted saints & deliver them: The time for this service was left to consideration till the next Sabbath. Then on March, 27: the motion was by the Elders renewed, & the Wednesday following, viz. March, 30: was agreed upon to be kept as a day of Fasting & Prayer, & was accordingly then attended:

Mary Carpenter, (sister of Mrs Alice Bradford, the wife of Governour Bradford) a member of the church at Duxbury dyed in Plimouth, March $\frac{1}{2}$ ⁹: being newly entered into [th]e 91st³ yeare of her age, she was a godly old maide, never married [13] 1687:

Members admitted

Lydia, wife of William Harlow Junior. Thomas Clarke senior, son of James & Abigail Clarke Rebekah, wife of Isaac Cushman: John Bennett. George Morton.

February, 26: the Elders propounded to the church & congregation to set apart, the 7th of March following, wherein to humble our soules by fasting & prayer, for the awfull hand of God in the measles this winter, that God would in mercy recover us blesse our labours by sea & land, our seed time & harvest & continue the meanes of grace & give us the grace of the meanes; the motion was by silence consented unto.

Members dyed

Anna Lettice, widow, July $\frac{2}{3}$: in her eighty first⁴ yeare, or thereabouts. Mrs Elizabeth Howland, the Relict of Mr John Howland, dyed at

¹ Above "March," which is not crossed out, is written, apparently in a different hand, "Feb.," which is underscored.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ The figure "91" is uncertain.

⁴ The words "eighty first" are written above a word crossed out.

Swanzy, December, 21st, in her 81st yeare. Deacon Robert Finney, January, 7: being 80 yeares old within a moneth.

Letters were sent to our church to desire us to attend the ordination of Mr Samuel Danforth to the office of a Pastour¹ in the church at Taunton; they particularly requested the Pastour & Elder, & a messenger to be sent; because the Elder could not goe, the church chose two bretheren, viz, George Bonum & Nathaniel Wood, who both attended the Pastour to that solemnity, on September, 21: the Proceedings in the management whereoff, the Pastour gave an account of unto the Church the Sabbath following, Sep: 25:

Letters of dismission were desired by our sister Mrs Bithiah Howland to the church at Bristoll, which were granted, Sep: 25:

October, 9: the Elders propounded publickly to the church & congregation to set apart a day of Thangsgiving to God, 1: For continuance of our Gospel mercies:² 2: For Gods gracious blessing on our labours by sea & land, giving a very seasonable yeare & plentiful harvest: 3: For our health: 4: For gracious restoring of Liberty to Gods people in o: E: by the Kings Proclamation. This was left to Consideration till the next sabbath.

oct: 16: the church concluded to set apart, oct: 26: & then did attend that duty. [14] Anno, 1688:

March, 7: was observed as a day of Fasting & Prayer.

Lords supper Administred, March, 11: April, 22: May, 20: June, 24: July, 29: September, 2: october, 7: November, 4: December, 2: February, 3:

Susanna Cole (who was Grey) was on April, 1: called before the church openly for fornication with John Cole before her marriage to him, she exprest some pœnitential words, & was laid under Admonition by the vote of the church, pronounced by the Elder & then seconded by the Pastour:

Members admitted.

John Churchel, & Rebekah his wife: Elizabeth, wife of Alexander Kenedy, she was then Baptized also: Deborah, wife of John Bennet, dismissed to us from the church at Beverley Joshua Prat & Mary his wife. Abiel Wood: Susanna, wife of Josiah Morton. Mr. Rowland Cotton; Mrs Elizabeth Cotton, the Pastors children. John Prat.

¹ Here the words "& they" are crossed out.

² Written above a word crossed out.

May 3:¹ was appointed & kept a Fast for the great Drought God sent great raine that day & after in answer to prayer.

Rebekah, the wife of our Brother Thomas Clarke, dyed, April, 4: she was not in full communion, a child of yarmouth church, & left in her owne hand-writing many gracious words, that did fully evidence God was graciously at worke with her soule, & that she was preparing for church-fellowship: her pious parents are living: her Grand-parents were blessed Mr Miller, Pastour of yarmouth, Mr Josiah Winslow, Deacon of Marshfeild, they & their wives all in heaven.

Children Baptized.

Elizabeth, daughter of John & Rebekah Churchel. Josiah, son of Elkanan Cushman: Isaac, son of Samuel & Sarah King. Mary, daughter of Mary Rickard: Elizabeth daughter of Joshua & Mary Prat. Samuel, son of Esther Tinkham: Elizabeth, daughter of Elizabeth Tinkham. Hannah, Elizabeth, Jane the 3 children of Elizabeth Kennedy. Nathaniel, son of Deborah Burden, of the church at Barnstable. John, son of Samuel Holmes, of the second church in Boston. Samuel, son of Samuel Rider: Samuel, son of Margaret Jackson. Elnathan, son of Abiel Wood. Josiah, son of Susanna Morton. John, son of James Warren. Eliezer, son of Mercy Holmes. Hannah, daughter of Hannah Harlow. Benjamin, son of Abigail Bryant. Rebekah, daughter of Lydia Cooke.

Members dyed

Esther Jordan, May, 26: in her 42ond yeare, Samuel Edey at Swanzey November 12: in his 87th yeare. George Watson, January, 31: being 87 yeares of age.

[15] 1688:

June, 17: the Elders stayed the church after the publick worship was ended, & propounded to them, that seeing divers men who offered themselves to church fellowship were very bashfull & of low voices, & therefore not able to speake in publick to the ædification of the congregation, nor to the hearing of the whole church who should be satisfied before they vote for their Admission, it was expedient the Bretheren should expresse what way they Judged best for helpe & satisfaction herein; the Elders & whole church exprest themselves man by man, & the generall conclusion of the body of the church was ² that those that could speake to hearing, should soe doe in the

¹ Written above a date crossed out.

² This word has apparently been altered.

publick congregation as formerly, but if the Elders Judged any man not capable thereof, they should call the church together in private to heare such make their relations, but voting their Admission & covenanting with them should be deferred¹ to be done before all in publick; Sundry of the Bretheren desired that the Relations of such might by the Elders be made knowne to the whole congregation at their Admission as Judging it would be for the ædification of others, which Proposall though it was not opposed by any, yet was left undetermined, & as God directed in the particular cases, soe for us to doe as should be Judged for the best.

June, 21: a private Fast kept by about 50 of the church, on short warning, on account of our Bretheren & neighbours that day before the councill: God speedily answered & sent them home next day.

Deborah Fish (who was Barrow) living now at Sandwich, was July, 15: declared guilty of Fornication with her now husband before marriage, & a letter read before the church to be sent to her from the Elders in their name to admonish her for her sin, the church consented thereunto.

october, 14: Mrs Anne Morton, widow was dismissed to the church at charlestowne.

oct: 28: the Elders propounded publickly to set apart, Tuesday following oct: 30: as a day of Fasting & prayer. 1: That God would put a stop to the rage of the Heathen who had murdered sundry English & give peace. 2: Inasmuch as great sickness & death was at Boston, that God would heale there & continue our health. 3: For a gratiuous issue of our owne troubles, divers of our bretheren & neighbours being that day to attend the Court: the motion was consented to & accordingly attended.

[16] Anno, 1689:

[L]ords supper, March, 3: April, 7: May, 5: June, 2: July, 7: August, 4: September, 1: [O]ctober, 6: November, 3: December, 1: February, 9:

March, 3: the Elders propounded to the church at conclusion of the sacrament to set apart the Thursday following, 7th Instant as a day of publick Thanksgiving for the mercies of the yeare past, continuance of our Gospel-liberties, with peace, health, plenty of the

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

fruits of the Earth, & Gods gracious answering our prayers in a solemn day of fasting & prayer last May for raine in time of drought; the motion was accepted universally, & the duty attended at the time mentioned, the Elders giving notice of it to the whole Assembly on the Sabbath evening.

Children Baptized.

Benajah,¹ son of John Prat: Joanna, daughter of Nathaniel & Mary Wood, borne Feb: 27: baptized, April, 7: Feare, daughter of Isaac & Rebekah Cushman. William, son of Lydia Harlow: William, son of Elizabeth Kenedy. William, Samuel, the 2 sons of Lydia Churchel. Eben-ezer, son of John Prat. Joanna, daughter of John & Lydia Nelson. Benjamin, son of Sarah Dotey. Mehetabel, daughter of Judith Faunce. Mercy, daughter of Sarah Churchel. Joanna, daughter of Deacon Thomas Faunce, & Jane his wife. Mary, daughter of Eliezer & Mary Churchel. Rebeckah, of John & Mary Churchel. Josiah, son of Elizabeth Dotey: Robert, son of Lydia Barrow. Mary, daughter of John Morton: Thomas, son of Susanna Gardner. Mercy, daughter of Samuel Sturtevant: also Samuel, Hannah, Nehemiah, James, in all six children of Samuel Sturtevant: see below under members admitted. Andrew, son of Mary Ring:

March, 31: the Elders propounded to the church to set apart a day for Fasting & prayer; 1: for continuance of our Gospel-liberties, & to be humbled that wee have noe better improoved such mercies for our growth in grace. 2: For a blessing on our labours this yeare by land & sea, that the earth may yeild its increase, that our ² seamen may be preserved from dangers. 3: For Peace, & that these rumors of trouble may cease. 4: For health to be restored to sick places & continued with us. 5: for mercy & settlement to old England. fixing the day was reserved till the next Sabbath.

April: 7: the wednesday following Apr: 10: was concluded to be the Fast-day, & was accordingly observed. same day, Isaac Lobdel & Sarah his wife were dismissed to the church at Duxbury.

Members admitted.

Nathaniel Morton. Lydia, wife of William Churchel. Elizabeth Bryant since wife of Joseph King: Samuel Sturtevant, he was then Baptized also, & his son, William. Mary, wife of Eliezer Ring.

¹ The fourth letter in this name has been altered from "j."

² Here a word is crossed out.

Members dyed

Elizabeth Edey at Swanzey, May 24: in her 82nd yeare, at the end of it. Priscilla Cooper, December, 29: in her 92nd yeare.

[17] Church Records, Anno 1689: continued

June, 23: Susanna, daughter of James & Abigail Clarke, was called before the church in Publick, & charged with the sin of Fornication, she manifested much sorrow & heavynesse by words & teares, & the Pastor & Elder giving solemne Admonition to her, the church by silence manifested concurrence & satisfaction.

June, 30: the Elders called upon the church to come together on Wednesday following on some church-occasions.

July, 3: the church met after Lecture at the Pastors house, & after Prayer, the Elder propounded, that there were offences committed by Mrs Dorothy Clarke, in full communion with us, as also by Nathaniel Clarke & William Clarke, children of the church, which should be looked after; the church sent Deacon Faunce & Bro: Ephraim Morton Junior to call Mrs Clarke to come before us; before she came, the Pastor read a letter from Deborah Fish (whom the church [h]ad sent letters of Admonition unto the last yeare for her fornication) wherein she manifested her Repentance for her sin etc.

Mrs Clarke being come, the Elder declared her offences, 1: In particular her violent carriage to a child of the Pastors, full evidence of which was presented to the church: 2: her Joyning with & encouraging her husband to get Clarks Island¹ from the towne & at last setting her hand to the sale of it: she was called to speake, & gave a Narrative of her carriage to the child, & in divers words & carriages showed an evill frame of spirit; the issue was,² many bretheren exprest their dissatisfaction at her, & the Elder summed up her offence, in these things, viz, that she was in a passion, when

¹ Acting under a warrant from Andros dated February 23, 1688, on March 3 Phillip Wells surveyed and laid out Clark's Island for Nathaniel Clark. On June 22, 1689, the sale of the island was authorized by the town of Plymouth, and in 1690 it was sold to Samuel Lucas, Elkanah Watson, and George Morton. Cf. Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, xxi. 333-334; Records of the Town of Plymouth, i: 192-193, 197-198, 223-224; J. Thacher, History of the Town of Plymouth (1832), pp. 165, 359-361.

² Here a word, perhaps "she," is crossed out.

[s]he pulled the lad out of the tree with her hand,¹ & then threw him over the fence; that she ought first to have told the mother of her ² child's fault in getting up to the tree & not have toucht him herselfe; that there was violence appeared in her carriage to the child; these things she ought to confesse her evill in, to which was added by some of the Church, too much appearance of untruths in the words, in that she said, *she tooke the lad gently downe from the tree & he came downe upon his feete*, whereas the evidence did positively assert, the child fell flat upon the ground by her pulling him by the leg: another was, that she told Mr Arnold that Mrs Cotton had by putting a key into Josiah's mouth caused his bleeding, whereas she used noe such meanes; Mrs Clarke also in her speech before the church [18³] did say, she had heard Mrs Cotton did put a key into the child's mouth, by a credible person, but would not, though much urged by divers bretheren to it, mention her Author, but presently said, she must study who it was & would speake with them first to see if they would owne it, which gave vehement ground of suspition she therein spake untruly; for these things & her offensive carriage about the Island, it was solemnly declared to her, that the church was offended with her & she should prepare ⁴ by Repentance to give them satisfaction, & was then ordered to withdraw: the church then sent Bro: Jos: Dunham & Bro: Ele. Churchel to call Nathaniel Clarke to come to them, the bretheren returned with this answer from him, namely, *that he would not come, he had nothing to say to us, nor would have any thing to doe with us*: upon which the Pastor declaring to the church sundry of his scandalous wicked words & practises, & that now he had practically disowned his relation to the church, the church then unanimously agreed in choosing Bro: Harlow & Bro: Bonum to goe to Nath: Clarke & tell him, that the church did require him in the Name of Christ to attend them in the publick assembly the next Sabbath in the afternoone, his answer to them was, *he should not come, for he could not speake, because he was under bonds*: this meeting was with much peace & comfortable unity in the whole church & was concluded with Prayer.

¹ Here some words are crossed out.

² This word has been altered.

³ At the top of the page is written "1688."

⁴ Here some words, perhaps "that she," are crossed out.

July, 7: Nathaniel Clarke made it manifest his Rejection of the church, in that he came not to the publick worship, nor did attend on the church, wherefore after many bretheren had particularly exprest themselves as Judging him worthy to be reiected for his not hearing the church, there was then a vote called for & universally consented to, that he should be disowned; the Elder did then declare that whereas Nathanie[l] Clarke had like Esau despised his birthright, by many words & carriag[es] contemned the church, they therefore disowned him & cutt him off fro[m] his relation to the church as an unprofitable branch; the Elder praye[d] after, & the Pastour added a word of counsell & Admonition to all church-child[ren.]

July, 28: the Elders propounded to set apart a day for Fasting & prayer. 1: on account of the drought: 2: Great sicknesse: 3: the Heathen doing mischeife Eastward. 4: our present unsettlement: 5: Distresse of Ireland; the day fixed [u]pon was, Tuseday following, July, 30: & it was then attended: [19] 1689:

November, 17: the Elders appointed the church to meete together on wednesday next after Lecture.

Nov: 20: the church stayed after the Lecture After prayer by the Pastor the Elders then declared matter of offence against Brother Samuel Dunham, partly in that he had taken the Name of God in vaine before many witnesses, in [o]ften saying those words, *the curse of God is upon the head & pluck* with many other unsavoury speeches; partly by intemperance in drinking which sister Jackson testified against him before [t]he Elders to his face, as to the next day after the sacrament in october last; others of the church then testified, that it was commonly reported of him, & they had divers times seene him disguised with drinke; said offender though he spake some good words yet not soe as to satisfy the church, & therefore by an universall vote of the church he was laid under Admonition & not to come to the Lords supper till he had manifested his Repentance for his inordinate walking by a reformed conversation, the Elder then concluded with prayer.

January, 26: the Pastour propounded to set apart a day for Humiliation & prayer, partly for Gods blessing on the Agents¹ now in & going for England, that there may be a good Issue of that Negotiation

¹ See p. 164 note 4, above.

in our settlement on good Foundations: & 2: for prevention of the spreading of the small pox, now increasing in Boston. 3: That God would put an end to the war with the Indians, that the next spring & summer wee might not be afflicted by them: 4: for our aged Elder, that God would heale & succour him, & yet spare him to us; the motion was left to the consideration of the church, & the determination of the time, till the next Sabbath:

February, 2: the Pastour againe propounding the motion, & the time to be Feb: 12: it was by a silent vote unanimously consented to; & then attended.

February, 9: at the conclusion of the sacrament, the Pastour (having formerly propounded it in publick) then moved to the church, the necessity that some Brother should read the Psalmes in the Elders absence, & by a silent vote of the church, it was concluded the Deacons should one or other of them doe it; Deacon Morton excused himselfe because aged & the other younger, upon which Deacon Faunce was desired to read the Psalme then & continually whilst without an Elder, he then accepted & attended that service.

[20] 1690:

Lords supper administred: March, 23: April, 27: June, 8: July, 20: August, 17: September, 14: october, 12: November, 9: December, 7: February, 22:

Members admitted

John Bradford & Mercy his wife.

Children Baptized

Sarah, daughter of Patience Holmes. Sarah daughter of Margaret Jackson. Joanna, daughter of Mr John Cotton, the Pastors sonne. Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Rider. Abijah, daughter of Abiel Wood. Priscilla, daughter of Elizabeth Tinkham. Joseph, son of Ruth Skiffe, of Duxbury church. Edward, son of Desire Southworth: Thomas, son of George & Joanna Morton. Samuel, son of Hannah Harlow: Josiah, son of Samuel Sturtevant. Patience, daughter of John & Mary Rickard senior. Elenor, daughter of John & Deborah Bennet. Susanna, daughter of Susanna Morton. Edward,¹ son of James Warren. James, son of Lydia Churchel. Deborah, daughter of Elizabeth Mayo of the church at Eastham. Esther, daughter of Joseph Dunham: Joanna, daughter of John Prat.

¹ Perhaps "Edwards."

April, 20: After the Blessing the Elders stayed the Church, & called forth Brother Joseph Howland, & charged him with Inordinate walking, by excessive drinking at one particular time as well as often formerly; Bro: Howland manifested some Repentance by confession, & owned his miscarriage at that time & many others; Elders & Bretheren did by divers solemne speeches labour to bring him to further Repentance, & the conclusive vote of the church, was to accept of this¹ his manifestation, & to waite in hopes of his future Reformation, & soe the church was dismissed with prayer by the Elder.

Members dyed

Martha, wife of Samuel Dunham senior, April, 26: in her 78th yeare. Desire, wife of Nathaniel Southworth, December, 4: in her 39th yeare. Hannah Rickard widow (who was formerly Churchel) December, 22: in her 67th² yeare. Lettice, the (second) wife of Andrew Ring, February, 22: about 66 yeares of age.

May, 25: After the blessing the Elders stayed the church, & called forth sister Dorothy Clarke to give publick satisfaction to the church for those offences for which she was left under Admonition, she then manifested her Repentance, in confession of sin, selfe-Judging, desiring Pardon of God, his church, the Pastor & his wife; the Bretheren generally exprest their acceptance & pardon of her; & that being alleadged, that she acted irregularly in offering last sacrament day to speake to the church, the Elders knowing nothing of it before, this also she confest her fault in, & the church forgave her, & were dismissed with prayer by the Elder. [21] 1690:

June, 22: the church granted Letters of dismission to our Brother Jonathan Prat from us to the church at Taunton.

August, 10: the Elders propounded publicly to the church, the scandalous sin of Hannah Silvester, a child of this church, the daughter of Hannah Bartlet, in committing folly with Joseph Silvester many moneths before marriage the child being borne about 3 months after marriage, a Letter of solemne Admonition was read by the Pastor & the church by a silentiall vote consented that the Elders should in their names send it to her to Scittuate where she now lives; which they did.

¹ Apparently altered from "that."

² "67th" is written above a word or figure crossed out.

September, 7: the Elders desired the church to come together the next day.

Sep: 8: The church met at the Pastors house, after prayer performed by the Pastor, the Elder propounded to the church the desires of Samuel Dunham to be reconciled to the church, he being called to manifest his Repentance before the church, did expresse himselfe humbly & pœnitently, some bretheren ¹ Testified that of late they had observed some amendment of his conversation, the Issue was, by the vote of the bretheren he was accepted againe to communion with us.

The Pastor then propounded to the church, the necessity that they should make choice of some more Deacons, & they to take care that his maintenance be duly brought in according to promise, that he might serve God among them without distraction, the Bretheren approved the motion, but left the conclusion thereof till another time, only chose 4 Bretheren, viz, Deacon Faunce, Isaac Cushman, Ephraim Morton Junior & Samuel Sturtevant to enquire of each one in church & towne what they would ingage to give unto the ministry for this present yeare: the Elder then concluded with prayer, only a motion was made to set apart a day of Fasting & prayer for our Armies gone to Canada & the Eastward, & it was well accepted.

Sep: 14: The Elders renewed the motion for a Fast to the whole congregation, it was then concluded to set apart, Sep: 24: for that service, which was then attended:

January, 25: the Elders, after the publick worship, stayed the church, on behalfe of Samuel Wood, who desired to be reconciled to the church, he was a child of the church & had bin censured for offence, & now by letters manifested his Repentance for what had bin offensive, & his desires [a]lso for full communion, the church by a silentiall vote readily manifested their willingnesse to forgive & accept him soe that if God should take him out of the world before he had opportunity to prosecute his motion for [f]ull fellowship, the church was reconciled to him & his censure taken off. [22] 1691:

Children Baptized

Josiah, son of Thomas Clarke, borne December, 15: baptized, March, 1: John, Alice, Abigail, Mercy, Samuel, Priscilla, William, 7 children of

¹ Here some words, apparently "by the," are crossed out.

John & Mercy Bradford. Lydia, daughter of Elizabeth King. Esther, daughter of Mary Rickard. Jabez, Thomas, William, Susanna, the 4 children of William & Susanna Shirtliffe. Mary, daughter of Nathaniel & Mary Wood. Mary, daughter of Lydia Harlow. Mary, daughter of Esther Tinkham: Joshua, son of Joshua & Mary Prat. Benjamin, son of Thomas & Abigail Cushman: Jacob, son of Lydia Cooke. Martha, daughter of Elkanan Cushman. Abiel, son of Abiel Wood. Joseph, son of Samuel Rider: Elkanah, son of Eliezer & Mary Churchel. Joanna, Henry, Ephraim, Samuel, Rebekah, Anne, Jabez, 7 children of Samuel Wood. Joanna, Daughter of John & Mary Rickard senior. John, son of John & Rebekah Churchel. Israel, son of Margaret Jackson.

Elder Thomas Cushman dyed, December, 11: having within two moneths finished the 84th yeare of his life; He was ordained Ruling Elder of this church, April, 6: 1649: he was neere 43 yeares in his office.

Lords supper; April, 5: May, 10: June, 7: July, 12: August, 9: September, 6: october, 4: November, 1: December, 6: January, 31:

Members dyed

John Jordan, March, 14: in his 82ond yeare. Mrs Sarah Parke, widow, April, 26: in her 76th yeare. Mrs Joane Hart, widow, June 9: being 75 yeares old. And Richard Wright, about two houres after being about 83 yeares old. Patience Whitney, widow, August, 16: in her 77th yeare neere finished. Sergeant William Harlow, August, 25: in his 67th yeare neere finished. Anne, wife of Deacon Morton, September, 5: about 64 yeares old. Lydia, wife of John Nelson, September, 11: in her 44th yeare. see above.

Members Admitted

Samuel Wood. William Shirtliffe & Susanna his wife. John Dunham senior, Reconciled to the church. Elizabeth, the wife of Thomas Clarke senior. Mary, the wife of John Carver; she was then Baptized. Sarah Cotton, the Pastors second Daughter.¹ [23] 1691:

April, 26: at the conclusion of the morning worship, the Elders desired the church to reparaire to the Pastors house; being there, Samuel Wood was called forth to make his relation in order to

¹ Pasted to p. [22] is a small leaf written on both sides, headed "m^r Robinsons discourse." It is not in Mr. Cotton's hand, apparently has no reason for being where it is, and appears to be a continuation of the sheet inserted between pp. [6-7] of Part iv: see p. 231 note 2, above.

Admission into the church, he having much bodily infirmity, weakness, & shaking of his head whence he was incapable of speaking in the publick Assembly; After he had spoken, it appeared the church was satisfied with him, & by vote publickly in the congregation he was that afternoone received into the church.

Then the Elders called out John Dunham, whose desires for Reconciliation with the church had 8 weekes before bin published to them, he did acknowledge his sin for which the church rejected him, & his sin in soe long ¹ standing out, Justified God & the church in their proceedings against him etc: the church respited the conclusion of the matter till the next Lords day: & then, May, 3: before the whole congregation upon further manifestation of his Repentance he was released of his censure & admitted into the church.

November, 8: after Evening-worship the Pastour propounded to the church the desires of his son Mr Rowland Cotton for letters of dismission to the church of Sandwich, which was accordingly granted & subscribed by the Elders.

Then the Pastor read letters from the church of Barnstable desiring our church to send messengers to helpe them in way of councill, respecting Mr Hinckleys case, in answer whereunto the church chose the Pastour & Deacon Morton to attend that service.

Nov: 29: The Pastour propounded to the church to set apart a day for Fasting & prayer, espetially for our Elder in his languishing condition, & for mercy to the land under black clouds etc Left to consideration till next Sabbat[h].

Dec: 6: the Pastor renewed the motion, & added, as further matter of Humiliation, the increase of sin among us, the day mentioned & concluded upon was, Dec: 16: The next Sabbath, Dec: 13: the Pastour propounded, that the Death of our [Elder did call aloud upon us for Humiliation & Prayer, & moved that on the Fast day there might be a contribution for the widow as a Testimony of their Respect, Love & Thankfullnesse to the deceased Elder [for] all the service & paines he taken for us while he lived [

Dec: 16: the Fast was attended, Mr Arnold & the Pastors tw[o sons] John & Rowland asisted in prayer & there was a c[heerful] & liberall contribution. [24] 1691:

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

December, 13: Sarah Howland, a child of the church, was called forth before the whole Congregation to answer for the sin of Fornication, she confessed her sin against God & his people, & desired forgiveness & prayers, by the vote of the church she was by the Pastour laid under the solemne ordinance of Admonition with severe rebukes; the Bretheren exprest that they would proceed thus farre at present, & not put hereby a finall issue to dealing with her in case afterward further guilt & aggravations of her sin should appeare, but then to act accordingly.

Dec: 27: the Pastour propounded to the church before the whole Assembly his desires of some Bretheren to be chosen by them, to be present with him in the private examination of persons in order to church-fellowship, whose relations were to be read before their Admission; & then put it to vote, that they chose the present Deacons, viz, Leift: Morton & Bro: Faunce, & any other Brother whom the Pastor might see reason to improove in this worke; to this the church consented by a silentiall-vote.

Jan: 31: The Pastour propounded to the church before the whole Assembly to set apart a day of Thanksgiving. 1: For the continuance of our sanctuary-mercies. 2: For our peace while trouble & war is in the remote parts of the country, 3: For Gods blessings on our Labours, seasonable showers & a comfortable Harvest. 4: For restoring health after sicknesse. 5: For protecting us¹ in that the Enemy by sea did not annoy us though in sight of us, & preserving all our sea-faring men: 6: For good successe of the Kings forces in subduing Ireland. 7: For good tidings from old England, giving hopes of the Establishing charter Government, & thereby blasting the designs & expectations of those who sought our hurt: The conclusion of the thing & time was reserved till the next Sabbath.

Feb. 7: the Pastor renewed the motion, to observe the day wednesday following, Feb. 10: by a silentiall vote it was consented to; the Pastour then moved & exhorted to a liberall contribution on that day for the [] life & Redemption of the captives lately taken at Yorke, & other [] Easterne parts in distresse: The day was comfortably attended, [and the cong]regation made a very liberall contribution for the ends above []

¹ Here a word or two are crossed out.

[25] Church Records, 1692:

Lords supper, March, 6: April; 3: May, 1: June, 5: July, 3: August, 7: September, 11: October, 16: November, 13: January, 8: February, 12:¹

Children Baptized.

Phœbe, daughter of Mary Ring, borne January, 26: baptized, March, 6: Eben-ezer, son of Samuel Dunham Junior, borne² February, 24: baptized, March, 27: Joseph, son of Sarah Churchel, borne January, 20: baptized, March, 27: Hilkiah, Mary, John, Jacob, the 4 children of Hilkiah & Ruth Tinkham. Nathanael, son of Samuel & Sarah King: Nathaniel, Bathshua, Israel, the children of Eleazar & Bathshua Dunham; their son Eleazar was baptized at Scittuate by Mr. Witherell, Pastour there. Stephen, Thomas, William the sons of Mehetable Bryant. John, son of Susanna Cole. Ephraim, son of Rebekah Cole. Sarah, daughter of James Warren. Benajah, son of John Prat. James, son of Susanna Cole. Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas & Elizabeth Clarke. William, son of Hannah Harlow: Elisha, son of Eleazer & Bathshua Dunham. Shubael, son of Elizabeth Tinkham: John, son of Mary Carver. Hannah, Gershom, children of Hannah Bradford. Rebekah, daughter of Rebekah Rickard. Mercy, daughter of Isaac & Rebekah Cushman. Thankfull, daughter of Lydia Barrow. Mary, Anne, the two children of Joanna Grey:

March, 6: the Pastour propounded to the church to meet together at his house the wednesday following.

March, 9: the church met, after the Pastor had prayed, he earnestly moved to the church, that they would in this day of Gods anger endeavour to finde out what is evill & provoking to God amongst us & be vigorous in promoting a worke of Reformation; God was graciously present in the meeting, all the Bretheren who spake approved of the motion as very seasonable & necessary to be attended; The Pastor propounded that all in full communion should search & try & reforme their wayes, & in particular, that some effectuall course might be taken to reforme the children of the church, who were much given to sensuality, intemperance, long tarrying, drinking & gaming at ordinaries: Yea & prophaning the Sabbath in needlesse drinking etc It was mentioned & concluded by an uni-

¹ Here a line is crossed out.

² Here a word or two are crossed out.

versall vote of the church by lifting up of hands, that the Pastor should in some convenient time, call all the Adult children of the covenant in the Name of the church to appeare before the church, & it should be demanded of them [26¹] whether they did owne their covenant-relation to the church, & accordingly to proceed in present counsells & Admonitions etc as might be Judged necessary; with a solemne declaration of the firme purpose & resolution of the church hereafter faithfully to watch over them for their soules good in preventing & endeavouring to heale sin & encourage holinesse: the Pastour then ended with Prayer.

Members admitted

Bathshua, wife of Eleazar Dunham. Lydia (second) wife of Samuel Rider. Hilkiah Tinkham & Ruth his wife; he was then Baptized. Susanna, wife of John Cole: Rebekah, wife of Ephraim Cole. Eleazar Dunham. Mehetabel, wife of Stephen Bryant Junior, she was then Baptized. Hannah, wife of Samuel Bradford. Rebekah, wife of Samuel Rickard: Mercy, wife of Samuel Sturtevant, she was then Baptized. Joanna, wife of John Grey: Mehetabel Nelson, since the wife of John Dotey Junior.

April, 3: the Pastour gave publick notice in the Congregation of what was concluded by the church at the meeting, March, 9: that soe all concerned might be prepared to attend the motion.

Members dyed

John Dunham, April, 6: in his 77th yeare. Elizabeth, wife of John Dotey, November, 21: her 44th yeare almost finished. Her little daughter Martha was Baptized the Sabbath after. Andrew Ring dyed, February, 22: in his seventy fifth yeare.

February, 26: John Rider, a child of the church, was publicly called before the church, & laid under Admonition, for the sin of Fornication committed with Hannah Barnes, who was afterwards his wife.

May, 1: the Pastour read letters from the church of Barnstable renewing their desires that wee would attend in councill with other churches there on May, 18: about Mr Hinckley. The church had in Nov: last desired Deacon Morton to attend that service with the

¹ At the top of the page is written "1692."

Pastor, & did soe still, & now voted that if he failed Deacon Faunce should goe, The Pastor & Deacon Faunce went at the time appointed. [27] 1692:

April, 24: the Pastor desired the church betweene the meetings to repaire to his house, they came, He propounded to them, that wee should renew our Covenant upon the approaching day of Fasting & Prayer, & read to them the Record of what the church had done in that kinde in the yeare 1676: as also two other papers, one from the Elders of this Colony, another from many Elders of Boston-Colony, in which were solemne calls, counsells, exhortations & encouragements to endeavour thorough Examination of hearts & wayes, & Reformation of heart & life in turning from all provoking evils etc.¹ The church readily accepted the motion & resolved to attend the worke on the day mentioned; & agreed, that the male-children of the covenant should by the Pastour be invited to come to his house on the morrow then & there to heare what was expected from them, viz, from about twenty yeares old & upwards, & the female-children of the church of such age to come on that account to the Pastors house on the Fast-day betweene the meetings; accordingly the Pastor gave them all publick notice:

April, 25: there was a very great & Generall appearance of all the male-children of the church & those very few absent being out of towne or necessarily hindered, not one refusing to owne his covenant relation to the church) the Pastour spent neere 2 houres with them in prayers & solemne Exhortations, counsells & Admonitions to all sorts of them particularly, & then read to them what they had done, Anno 1676: & asked them, if they were willing to acknowledge the Lord God of their fathers, & in like manner on the day of prayer at hand renew the conenant for Reformation etc which they universally consented to; it was observed many were much affected at what was spoken, & they did not spend that evening as many had used to doe.

April, 27: on the Fast day betweene the meetings came the Female church-children to the Pastors house a great Assembly,² the Pastor prayed & exhorted etc about an houre, & did all as he had done with the young men at the meeting above mentioned, & had the like issue.

¹ See pp. 148-152, 167-169, above.

² Here a word is crossed out.

Then after sermon in the publick congregation in the Afternoone, the Pastor stood up [and after] some [28¹] Preface grounded on Josh: 24: 15: etc he read a solemne Letter which the Generality of the ministers in this Colony had perused & approved of as meet to be commended to all the churches & people to quicken them to Reformation; & for further Encouragement in the worke he read the conclusion of nine ministers in one of their Association-meeting[s] at Cambridge, March, 6: foregoing, & then proceeded first with the members of the Church in full Communion & desired them all both bretheren & sisters to manifest their consent in Renewall of Covenant by standing up all the time the Paper was read which contained confessions of our particular sins & engagements of Reformation, the Paper was the same that 'on the like occasion had bin improoved in the yeare, 1676:² only some further addition in the matter of confession our present circumstances called for; the whole church did accordingly; then the Pastour proceeded with the³ the children of the covenant & called on them soe to stand up while a Paper sutable for them was read, the same (only with some Addition as in the other) which they had consented to Anno 1676: on a like occasion, there was universall concurrence in this manner by them also, & the whole solemnity concluded with prayer; It was observed that many of all sorts were much affected with this solemne Transaction, the Lord accept us in Christ & enable us all to performe our vowes & covenant-engagements to him

June, 19: After the Evening worship, the Pastour stayed the church, & propounded, 1: That a sister; susanna Ransom, having falling into scandall by excessive drinking, & not appearing this day before the church⁴ to answer for it, that therefore the church would by Bro: Shaw in their name require her to attend the next Sabbath, to which the church consented by a silentall vote. 2: That seeing many of the Psalmes in Mr Ainsworths Translation which wee now sung had such difficult tunes as none in the church could sett [] the church would consider of some way of Accomod[ation tha]t wee might sing all the Psalmes; This motion [] the consideration of the church for a time. [29] 1692:

¹ At the top of the page is written "1692."

² See pp. 149-152, above.

³ Here "all" is crossed out.

⁴ Here the words "this day" are crossed out.

Susanna Ransom (who formerly was Gardner) was called before the church, July, 10: to answer for her sin of Drunkenesse, she partly by word, & more by writing did manifest some Repentance for her sin; the Pastor called upon every Brother of the church by Name to declare their Judgment; every one did speake, the Generall conclusion was, she should be laid under the censure of Admonition, & the church would in that way waite upon God for¹ discovery of the truth of her Repentance; This Proposition being made to the church by the Pastor, was by a silentall vote universally consented to, & that ordinance solemnly applyed to her, with prayer for a blessing; then was the whole congregation dismissed with the Blessing.

August, 7: at the conclusion of the sacrament, the Pastor called upon the church to expresse their Judgments as to the Proposall made about the Psalmes² June, 19: & put to vote, whether they did consent, that when the Tunes were difficult in our Translation, wee should sing the Psalmes³ now in use in the neighbour-churches in the Bay; two bretheren vocally exprest their approbation, & by a silentall vote the whole church consented it should be soe, not one opposing: The Sabbath following, Aug, 14: wee began to sing the Psalmes in course, according to the vote of the church.

August, 21: the Pastor desired the church to be together on the Lecture day.

Aug: 24: After Lecture the Pastor stayed the church, & propounded to their consideration, that some of our church & church-children had last spring desired William Hoskins to come & live with them at Lakingham for carrying on the Sabbath in teaching them, which they desired & he accepted without asking any consent or counsell of the Elder or church therein, & thereby they generally in that village neglected coming to the publick worship, & in espetiall on a Fast-day, wherein the church agreed to a solemne renewall of their covenant,⁴ they stayed there & came not to attend that solemne worke; After discourse of divers bretheren declaring their dissatisfaction at their practice, & some speaking more favourably to it, it

¹ Here something is crossed out.

² Here some words, apparently "July 19," are crossed out.

³ Here "Bay" is crossed out.

⁴ Here something is crossed out.

was unanimously voted by the church, that the Pastor should warne the Bretheren concerned in the matter of offence, in some convenient time to attend the church & give an account of their actings & the grounds thereof.

September, 4: the Pastor read a letter from the Governour to the ministers etc to set apart days of Fasting & Prayer for the Army gone Eastward etc: Sep: 11: the church agreed to set apart, Sep: 15: for that service, & on that day it was attended. [30] 1692:

September, 11: after the Sacrament the Pastor propounded to the church to consider of some meet bretheren that might read the Psalmes in the absence of Deacon Faunce (who was then sick) & left it to consideration.

October, 2: The Pastor desired the church to come together the next day:

Oct: 3: The church met, after prayer the Pastor propounded to the church, concerning John Grey & Joseph Warren, two church children, who had sinned both by Excesse in drinking, & the former by evill speaking etc inasmuch as these evils were committed before renewall of covenant (see church Records Apr: 24: & 27: 1692: pag: 3: 4:¹) they would deale with them in private, the church consenting thereunto, Joseph Warren was then called before the church, & manifested Repentance for his sin & desired them to forgive him, the church voted he should have an Admonition, which was solemnly applied to him by the Pastor.

In answer to the motion above, Sep: 11: divers Bretheren were nominated as sutable to read the Psalmes, viz, Jonathan Shaw, Thomas Cushman, Isaac Cushman, Elkanan Cushman, John Morton, Ephraim Morton Junior, Eliezer Churchel, william Shirtliffe, John Bradford, & ² Baruch Jordan, & it was concluded, that any of these might be called forth by the Pastor to this service, & any other of the Bretheren that might hereafter be found meet for it.

The Pastor then propounded, that the church would unite in some way for his settled yearly salary, most of them that spake, were to doe it by Rate; the meeting was then dissolved.

November, 13: the Pastor desired the church to meet on the Lecture day

¹ The reference is to pp. [27-28] of the text, or pp. 276-277 of this volume.

² Something is here crossed out.

Nov. 16: the church met at the Pastors¹ house before Lecture; after Prayer, John Grey was called before the church, & charged with excessive drinking & evill speaking, matter of fact was evident, he showed but an ill frame of spirit, after some solemne speeches to him, by vote of the church, the Pastor laid him under awfull Admonition for his sinnes & impenitency therein.

After the Lecture, the Pastor stayed the church, & called the bretheren mentioned of lakingham, who had called Will: Hoskins etc & declared the offences as in pag: 5:¹ W: Hoskins & the other said they were sorry for their giving any offence to the church: The Issue was, the church did declare that their meeting in short days & unseasonable weather, they [fa]ulted not, but their constant meeting there in comfortable seasons for travell they disapproved as irregular. [31] 1693:

Lords supper: March, 26: May, 7: June, 18: July, 23: August,² 27: September, 24: October, 22: November, 19: December, 17: February, 4:

May, 14: Mrs Elizabeth Allyn (the Pastors daughter) dismissed to the church at Salisbury

Children Baptized

Henry, son of Susanna Morton (borne January, 7:) baptized March, 5: John, son of Samuel & Mercy Sturtevant (borne, February, 10:) baptized, March, 12: Robert, Susanna, the two children of Elizabeth Cooke. Jane, daughter of Deacon Thomas Faunce & Jane his wife, (borne November, 18:) baptized, April, 16: Joseph, son of Judith Faunce. John, Mercy, Anne, Jane, Elizabeth, the five children of Caleb & Jane Cooke: Benjamin, son of Samuel & Lydia Rider: John, son of Susanna Ransom. Lydia, daughter of Lydia Harlow. Nathaniel, son of Eliezer & Mary Churchel. John, son of Baruch Jordan. Samuel, son of John Prat. Nathanael, son of Nathanael & Mary Wood. Isaac, son of Lydia Churchel. Hannah, daughter of Rebekah Rickard. Caleb, son of Hilkiah & Ruth Tinkham. Nathanael, Samuel, Seth, the 3 sons of Samuel Fuller Junior. Mehetabel daughter of Elkanan Cushman. Desire, daughter of Joanna Grey. Sarah, daughter of Elizabeth Kenedy. Eleazer, son of Rebekah Morton, a member of the third church in Boston. Lydia, daughter of John & Patience Nelson.

¹ The reference is to p. [29] of the text, or p. 278 of this volume.

² Here a figure is crossed out.

March, 19. The Pastor propounded to the whole Assembly to set apart a day of Thanksgiving for preservation of King & Qu: etc for our Gospel-merc[ies,] Health, Harvest, destroying caterpillars last summer, saving ours in storme etc checks to the Enemy at wells, saving all townes last yeare, preserving ours that went forth returning Agents, yet ruling us by saints; Mar: 26: at Lds Table church consented.

April: 1:¹ appointed for the service: & it was then attended.

Members Admitted

Elizabeth, wife of Francis Cooke: Caleb Cooke & Jane his wife: Jacob Cooke: Samuel Fuller Junior: Patience, the (third) wife of John Nelson: Benjamin Eaton senior.

November, 5: Mr John Cotton (the Pastors son) was dismissed to the church at Yarmouth.

May, 7: the Pastor propounded to set apart a day of Fasting & prayer, wherein to humble our selves for sin, seeke mercy for the Army, restoring peace, blessings of the² yeare, Mercy to O: E: successe to the King etc: May, 14: the church by a sile[n]tiall vote agreed to set apart May, 24: for that service; & accordingly it was [then attend]ed universally [32] 1693:

[Ju]ne, 11: the Pastor called the church at the End of the morning [w]orship to come to his house, which they did, & then heard & accepted Caleb Cookes Relation, in order to his Admission to church-fellowshi[p.] The Pastor then propounded & left to the consideration of the church that Question, viz, whether the child of a church member under the censure of Admonition may be regularly Baptized.

July, 23: immediately before the Administration of the Lords supper Susanna Ransom's confession & Repentance of her owne writing was read to the church alone, & accepted, & she released of the censure of Admonition, & soe the Pastor had noe need to desire an answer to the Question above propounded:

Members dyed

Leiftenant Ephraim Morton, a Deacon, october, 7: in his 70th yeare or 71st: Elizabeth, wife of Hugh Cole (formerly of Jacob Cooke) at Swanzey in her 57th yeare dyed october, 31:

¹ Perhaps "5."

² Altered from "they."

John Waterman & Anna his wife¹ dismiss to us from Marshfield church againe received Jany.²

November, 19: Letters were read from the church at Yarmouth to desire the Pastor & some of the Bretheren to come to them to the ordination of Mr John Cotton Junior to be their Pastor on Nov: 22: the church chose³ two bretheren to accompany their Pastor, viz, Samuel Sturtevant & Thomas Clarke, who did attend that service, the Pastor Nov: 26: gave an account to the church publickly, how the whole work was managed at Yarmouth.

December, 31: the Pastor publickly propounded to the church to prepare for the choice of two Deacons.

February, 4: the Pastor called a church meeting to be on Febr: 7:

The church then met, after prayer, the Pastor propounded, 1, The singing of spirituall songs, to this the church consented by a silentall vote. He then told them he would renew catechizing of children, & desired the church to warne their families, children & servants not to goe out of the Assembly till the Blessing was given, in these things was exprest much unanimity: Nextly whether parents might without offence hold up their children to Baptisme, not being in full communion? some said for it, some said it was indifferent, but it appeared that generally the bretheren were not free to admit of it. After some discourse of setling the Pastors salary, the matter of Nomination of Deacons was deferred till that day moneth.

February, 25 [Jedu]thun Robins & Hannah his wife (who was Prat) children of the church [were ca]lled forth publickly, & by the Pastor in the Name of Christ by th[]c[h]urch, laid under Admonition for fornication before marriage.

¹ Here "formerly" has been interlined and then crossed out.

² Perhaps "June."

³ Altered from "chosen."

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

VOLUME II

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

VOLUME II¹

[a²]

[1]	Votes & Transactions of y ^e Chh recorded in Page 1 & on	
[2]	Baptisms ³ by M ^r Leonard	page 119 ⁴
[3]	Baptisms ⁵ by Chandler Robbins	157 ⁶
[4]	Names of Chh Members alphetically dispos ^d	168 ⁷
[5]	Chh Members admitted ⁸ by C. Robbins	172 ⁹
[6]	Marriages ¹⁰ —by C. Robbins	191 ¹¹
[7]	Owning y ^e Covenant — by M ^r Leonard	237 ¹²
8	Owning &c C. Robbins	240 ¹³

¹ Volume II contains 119 leaves, or 238 pages. This enumeration does not include p. [a], which is pasted on the inside of the front cover. The pages measure 12³/₈ inches in height by 7³/₄ inches in width. The first six pages (here for convenience labelled [b-g]) and several other pages are not numbered; and, beginning with p. [87], the page-numbering is often wrong. The volume is bound in its original vellum cover, which, however, has no label or writing on it.

The entries in Volume II are chiefly in the hand either of the Rev. Nathaniel Leonard or of the Rev. Chandler Robbins, the handwriting being identified in the footnotes.

² This page, here labelled [a] for convenience, is pasted on the inside of the front cover. The entries are in the hand of the Rev. Chandler Robbins, with the possible exception of the words written in pencil: see p. 286 note 12, below.

³ This word is underscored.

⁴ P. [117] of the text, or p. 429 of these volumes.

⁵ This word is underscored.

⁶ P. [155] of the text, or p. 452 of these volumes.

⁷ P. [168] of the text, or p. 468 of these volumes. Mr. Robbins first wrote "170," then crossed out that figure and wrote "168."

⁸ The words "Chh Members admitted" are underscored.

⁹ P. [172] of the text, or p. 471 of these volumes. The figure "172" has been altered, apparently, from "173."

¹⁰ This word is underscored.

¹¹ P. [191] of the text, or p. 492 of these volumes. Mr. Robbins first wrote "209," then crossed out that figure and wrote "191."

¹² P. [213] of the text, or p. 510 of these volumes.

¹³ P. [216] of the text, or p. 512 of these volumes. The figure "240" has been altered, apparently from "340."

9	Dismissions ¹ — M ^r L	254 ²
10	Catalogue of Chh Members — M ^r L	255 ³
11	Dismissions — by C. Robbins	171 ⁴
12	Confessions &c	79 ⁵
13	Deaths, Account of — since my Settlem ^t in 1760 . .	104 ⁶
14	Confession of Faith, accord ^e to the Scriptures, adopt ^d 1795	Page 92 ⁷
15	Account of a glor ^a Revival of Religion, in 1792 & 93	page 83 ⁸

p 88⁹ 1794 Proposed Separation

218¹⁰ card Playing

38¹¹ character of Nath^l Leonard¹²

[b¹³]

1745 May 23^d Rec^d of M^r Return Wait 10/ for the use of the
Land [] & his Wood House &c Stands¹⁴ on the Parsonage for
last year:

N LEONARD

1746 Ap^l 13 Rec^d of M^r Return Wait 10/ ditto []

1747 May 18 Rec^d Ditto 10/ old tenor

1748 Ap^l 20 Rec^d ditto 10/ old tenor

1750 Ap^l 24 Rec^d ditto for the Two last Years 2/8 Lawful Mony

1752 Ap^l 7 Rec^d of M^{rs} Wait for y^e Two last Years 2/8 Lawful
Mony

¹ This word is underscored.

² P. [254] of the text, or p. 521 of these volumes.

³ P. [255] of the text, or p. 521 of these volumes.

⁴ P. [171] of the text, or p. 471 of these volumes. The figure "171" has been altered, apparently from "173."

⁵ P. [79] of the text, or p. 374 of these volumes.

⁶ P. [94] of the text, or p. 390 of these volumes.

⁷ P. [92] of the text, or p. 388 of these volumes.

⁸ P. [83] of the text, or p. 377 of these volumes.

⁹ P. [88] of the text, or p. 383 of these volumes.

¹⁰ P. [218] of the text, or p. 514 of these volumes.

¹¹ P. [38] of the text, or p. 326 of these volumes.

¹² These entries are written in pencil, and perhaps are not in the hand of Mr. Robbins.

¹³ P. [b] is the recto of the first leaf.

¹⁴ This word is uncertain.

1754 Sep^r 11 Rec^d of M^{rs} Martha Wait Wid^w 1 Penny Lawfull
 Mony for the use of that Corner of the Ministry
 Lot at the South West Corner of her House.¹

Plim^o Nov^r 1771.² As it has been a Matter of Question with some, whither publick Confessions of scandalous Sins, should be recorded; as the recording of them transmits the Memory of their Sin to posterity & may be a Disadvantage some way to y^e Children of those that have fallen into Sin—& some other Reasons—I have maturely considered the Matter, & am fully of opinion that 'tis proper & best that such Confessions be recorded for the following Reasons

CHANDLER ROBBINS

1. There are sundry Accounts of y^e Falls of some Eminent Saints tha[t] are recorded in Scripture, & of their Repentance, which a[
 handed down to all posterity — & no doubt for wise & good End[s]

2. The recording publick Manifestations of Repentance may [tend] to encourage others to hope for that Mercy of God in Chris[t] which has brôt to Repentance those who have grievously fallen

“For this Cause I obtain^d Mercy — that in me first — &c

3. The *falling into Sin* is just Cause of Shame — but 'tis *no Shame to confess it* but a lasting shame not to confess it. nor can it properly operate to the Disadvantage of posterity to have it known, that my Ancestor who fell in[to] Sin was brôt to Repentance & restored as we hope to y^e favor of God & M[en]

4. It has been the common practice of many Chh's to have suc[h] Confessions put upon Record & even of this Chh in some Instances. And

5. It seems very expedient & in some Cases quite needful they sh[] as we have very lately had occasion to observe — A person [was] propounded to Communion, who had many Years before f[allen] into Scandal — & had also made publick Confession — but [not] being recorded, it was not known, nor remember^d by a[n]y of] y^e Chh at this Distance of Time,³ and as in her [] she made no Confession of her Sin (& it was known she had fallen) — great Uneasiness almost Universally till Satisfaction was gain[] personal, par-

¹ To this point the entries are in the hand of Mr. Leonard.

² The date is underscored. This entry is in the hand of Mr. Robbins.

³ Here “which” is crossed out.

ticular Enquiry — Therefore for these & other Reasons [it
my Duty to record Confessions as in Page 79.¹

[c²] [d³]

A

Continuation of the Records
of the First
Church of Christ in Plymouth
began

July 9th Anno Dom: 1732.

Vol: II.⁴

[e⁵] [f⁶] [g⁷]

July 3^d 1744 The first Precinct in Plymouth took down the Old Meeting House. The three following Lords Days the Congregation Met for religious Worship at the Court House

July 17th Began to Raise the New Meeting House, before we began the raising We Sang togeather in Psalms 127th 1 verse & in Psalm 122 the 6, 7, 8, 9, verse I then Prayed with the People. We finished the Raiseing July 20th Each Day we sang some part of a Psalm in the Morning & I Prayed. I also Prayed with the People Each Evening.⁸ When the Frame was Erected the People were Dis-mist with singing the 115 Psalm 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15-17. 18^{vs} & with Prayer.

July 29th 1744 The Congregation Met in the New Meeting House (Lords Day) After Prayer We Sang the 122^d Psalm & I Preached from the first 4 verses of s^d Psalm.

O that the Glory of this House may be greater than the former.

NATHANAEL LEONARD⁹

¹ P. [79] of the text, or p. 374 of these volumes.

² P. [c], which is the verso of the first leaf, is blank.

³ P. [d] is the recto of the second leaf.

⁴ This entry is in the hand of Mr. Leonard.

⁵ P. [e], which is the verso of the second leaf, is blank.

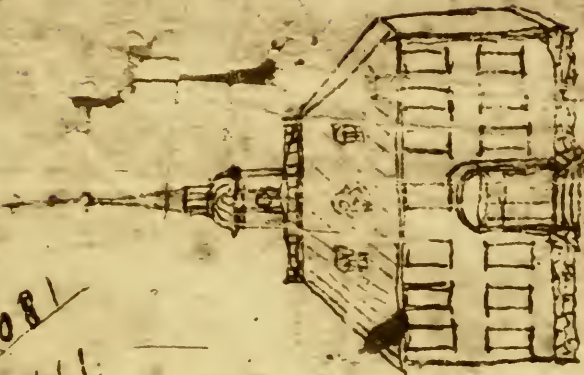
⁶ P. [f], which is the recto of the third leaf, is blank.

⁷ P. [g] is the verso of the third leaf. The entries on p. [g] of the text are in the hand of Mr. Leonard.

⁸ Here some words are crossed out.

⁹ The entries on pp. [1-18] of the text—or pp. 289-305 of this volume—are in the hand of Mr. Leonard.

1081
1795



1744
47 ft. 3 in. wide in front
67 ft. 8 in. deep
18 ft. 10 in. high
14 ft. 6 in. high
14 ft. 6 in. high

1747

1747 for Master of May

1747 for Master of May

1747 for Master of May

1747 for Master of May

1747 for Master of May

Third Meeting-house, Plymouth, 1744-1831

Engraved for The Colonial Society of Massachusetts
from a drawing of unknown date

[1] Church Record

July 9 1732 A Letter from Edw^d Winslow Esqr a member of the C^{hh} of Christ in Rochester being read to this C^{hh} wherein he complained that that C^{hh} had suspended him from special ordinances without sufficient cause desireing the Presence of this C^{hh} by the Pastor and Messengers to Set in Council on that affair (with some other C^{hhs} he had apply'd to) on the 18 Cur^t This C^{hh} comply'd with the Request of s^d Winslow, and made Choice of Elder Thomas Faunce, Coll Isaac Lothrop and Deacon Haviland Torry to attend with the Pastor Nathanael Leonard on y^t affair.

July 18 the Council met viz the first C^{hh} of Middleboro the Chh of Plymouth and the Chh of Dartmouth and the case being submitted to the Descition of this Council by both parties; the Council after a full hearing of the Case and earnest supplication for Direction gave in such a Result as was readily comply'd with both by the Chh and said Winslow and both parties embraced each other with mutual forgiveness. The Lord confirm their Peace and build them up in Holyness and Comfort unto Salvation.

Anno Dom: 1733

May 3 Lords Day Evening a Letter from the Chh of Kingston was read Desireing the Presence of this Chh by y^r Elders and one Messenger to set in Council on the case of Seth Chipman whom they had suspend[ed] from special ordinances the Church¹ made Choice of Brother Stephen Churchil to attend with the Elders the Council met there on May 15 — and adjourned to June the 20 and then gave in a Result Justifying the Chh and exhorting said Chipman to a Penitent Humiliation.

June 3 Lords Day Evening a Letter from the South Chh in Plympton was Read Desireing the Presence of this Chh by the Pastor and Messengers to Assist in the Ordination of M^r Othniel Campbel to the work of the Gospel Ministry there on the 13th Cur^t the Chh made choice of Elder Faunce Nathaniel Thomas Esqr Cap^t Warren and the Three Deacons to attend with the Pastor. The Rev^d M^r Campbell was ordained on Said Da[y] The Rev^d M^r Thatcher of Middleboro' gave the Char[ge] The Pastor preached

¹ Here "made" is crossed out.

from Acts 16. 17. the Lord make him a wise Faithful & Successful Servant. [2] Church Records

1733/4 Jan^{ry} 13 (Lords Day) The Pastor Stayed the Chh and Appointed them to meet to morrow at 11 of the Clock to consider what is proper to be further done to reclaim our Brother John Sparhawk from his Intemperate Drinking in w^{ch} he still Continues The C^{hh} met and He being very Desirous of some further Forbearance Promising Amendment, the Chh then Voted

1 That the Chh wait upon Brother John Sparhawk a little Longer, But upon the first Offence he shall be guilty of from this time that he be Publickly Admonished.

2 The Deacons made a motion to the Chh that they would Appoint a Com^{tee} to Examine y^e ¹ Chh Stock &c and the Church Voted that the Deacons are Desired to lay their Acc^{ts} before the Chh at the next meeting.

the Meeting was then concluded with Prayer

1733/4 Jan^{ry} 31. After Lecture the Pastor Stayed the C^{hh} and Moved that the Deacons may be Desired to Chatechise the Children between Meetings as soon as the Days are sufficiently Lengthened for a Convenient Intermission. To Ask them 4 or 5 Questions a time till they have Learn^d the Chatechism ² The Chh voted to Desire them &c with a unanimous Voice

1733/4 Feb: 10 Lords Day Sister Lydia Cushman made Publick Confession of Intemperate Drinking and was Restored to Comunion.

1733/4 Feb: 17th (Lords Day,) Brother John Sparhawk was Publickly Admonished for Scandalous Drunkenness. Você Ecclesia ³

1734 (Lords Day) Octo: 13. a Letter from Sundry Brethren in Halifax was read Desireing the Presence of this Chh by its Elders and Messengers to Joyn with other Chhs on the 16th cur^t to embody the breathren Living in that Town members of Several Chhs into a Distinct Chh. We made Choice of Deacon Atwood & Coll Lothrop to attend with the elders and Pastor on that Affair. Accordingly Octo: 16 1734 a Chh was Imbodyed in Halifax which we hope God will Dwell and grant Light Peace, Holyness and Prosperity thro-out all Generations.

¹ Written over "to."

² Here some words are crossed out.

³ These two words are somewhat obscure.

Mr Ignatius Cushing a Member of y^a Chh was at this time Dis-mist from us and Joyned with them. [3] Church Records

1734/5 Feb 23 Lords Day P. M. The Pastor with the Concur-ance of the Elder notified the Brethren of this Chh to meet together Tomorrow at the meeting house 1¹ a Clock P. M. to consider of some affairs they had to lay before them.

at a Chh meeting held at this Meeting house Feb 24 1734/5 After Prayer to Almighty God

1. Voted to Thank the Deacons for their good service in Chate-chising the Children the Last Year

2. Voted That the Deacons are Desired to continue the same good Services and to begin the first Sabbath after the 10th day of March

3. The Pastor then read to the C^{hh} the Report of the Council that Sat at Sandwich in Octo: last wherein they take off the sentence of Non co^munion that had been laid upon that Chh and Pasto[r] &c Mr Fessendens confession was also read — Also a Letter from the Dissatisfied Brethren Requesting the Pastor of this Chh by their Elder and one Messenger to assist in Embodying them into a Dis-tinct Chh and in ordaining Mr Francis Woster over them &c After some² debate the Question was put wheather this Chh will grant the Request of these Dissatisfied Brethren and send Delegates upon these affairs — It passed in the Negative a minor part only were willing to send.

4. Then the Pastor co^mmunicated a Narrative of the proceedings of the Council lately held at Salem w^{ch} Council was called in the Third way of Co^munion mentioned in the Platf: and have declared non co^munion with that Chh & Pastor (Mr Samuel Fisk) for obsti-natly persisting in Scandalous Division & contention without using the means of Peace. the Chh did not proceed to any act upon that affair leaving it under consideration.

The³ Meeting was concluded with Prayer⁴

July 27 1735 Jane the wife of Ebenezer Finny of Middleborough haveing Desired a Dismission from us to put herself under the In-struction⁵ of that Chh. twas Granted.

¹ Altered from "2."

² This word has apparently been altered.

³ Some words before "The" are crossed out.

⁴ Here some words are crossed out.

⁵ This word is obscure.

Sep 14 1735 A Letter from the Chh lately embodied at Halifax was Read Desiring the Presence of this Chh by their Elders & Messengers to Assist in the Ordination of M^r John Cotton on the 1st Day of Octo^r Next the Chh Made Choice of Deacon Foster and [Thomas to attend with the elders and Pastor. At the same time Voted that M^r John Cotton the Pastor to be ordained be Dismissed from us and Reco^mended to them The Rev^d M^r John Cotton was Ordained at Halifax Octo 1st 1735. Whom we hope and Pray May be a Rich gift of our ascended Lord unto that Chh and pple [4] Church Records

1736 July 25 Lords Day (P:M:) a Letter was read to this Chh from a number of Brethren in the Mattapoyset Precinct in Rochester Desiring the Presence¹ of this Chh by their Elder and Messengers, to assist the s^d Brethren in their Embodying in to a Distinct Chh on the 28 instant. The Chh made Choice² of Nath^l Thomas Esqr and Deacon Haviland Torrey to attend with the Pastor on s^d Affair.

July 28 the Pastor and Delegates of three Chhs viz Rochester, Plymouth & Dartmouth Met at M^r John Hammonds at Rochester aboves^d and Embodied Eight Brethren there into a Distinct Chh. May they be enriched with Divine and spiritual Blessing, and increased with the Increases of God.

This Year (1736) there has been Added in full Co^mmunion 11 Males & 31 Females. I Bless God for this Increase. O that God would go on to add unto us Dayly of such as shall be Saved. Amen.

1738 June This Chh attended by their Pastor & Delegates at a Council at Rochester (in the Second Precinct) relating to the Settlement^t of M^r Elisha Tupper. the Council Advised the Chh & Precinct to Dismiss s^d Tupper

1738 June 27 This Chh Attended by their Pastor & Delegates at a Council at Eastham First Chh relating to the Rev^d M^r Samuel Osburn. they complained of his Preaching & venting Erronious Doctrines. the Council suspended him till Octo 25.³ & then advised to a separation.

1738 Octo 29 Letters were read to this Chh from our Brethren

¹ Written above "Assistance," crossed out.

² This word has been altered.

³ Here the words "He was then" are crossed out.

at Monument viz Elisha Holmes, Thomas Harlow, Joseph Bartlet, Solomon Silvester, Samuel Ellis, Robert Harlow and Elisha Holmes Jun^r Desireing Dismission & Recomendatory Letters in order to their Embodying into a Distinct Chh: which was Granted. The Chh also Granted a Dismission to the Women in full comunion Inhabitants in s^d Precinct Viz Lydia Ryder, Elizabeth Bartlet, Sarah Blackmar, Sarah Johnson, Abigail Witherhead, Elizabeth Silvester, Hannah Ryder, Mary Clark, Hannah Ellis, Remember Witherhead Hannah Silvester, Susannah Cornish, Sarah Sturtevant Jedidah Harlow, Susannah ¹ Holmes, Ann Clark, Ann May & Experience. and also Voted that our particular Relation to the Baptized Persons or the Children of the Chh in s^d Precinct be transferred to that Chh when Embodied.

A Letter was also read Desireing the Presence of the Elders and Delegates of this Chh to Assist at their embodying and at the Ordination of M^r Jonathan Ellis whom they have Chosen for their Pastor, on the Eight of Nov^r next which was Granted. & Deacons Foster & Atwood [5 ²] were chosen to attend with the Pastor.

They were accordingly embodied into a Distinct Chh on Nov^r 8 1738 & M^r *Jonathan Ellis* Ordained to the Pastoral Office over them by Prayer and Imposition Hands whom we Hope & Pray may prove a Pastor after Gods own heart & that God will Establish & Build up that Chh & Bless it for ever. Amen.

1740 Octo 19 a Letter was Read from the Second Chh of Rochester Desireing the Presence of this Chh by³ the Elder & Messengers to Assist at the Ordination of M^r Ivory Hovey the 29 Cur^t. Deacon Atwood & Brother John Faunce were Chosen to Attend with the Pastor

1740 Octo 20 at a Chh Meeting Voted that the Deacons Discourse with our Brother John Sparhawk our Brother Ebenezer Cobb & our Sister Rebekah Staff concerning the Several things complain'd of in them & make Report at the next Chh meeting.

Brother Cobbs case was Dismist June 23 1741

1741 May 11 at a Chh Meeting Voted that if any Person in relation to this Chh shall be guilty of any Scandalous Offence & do not

¹ Here "Harlow" is crossed out.

² At the top of p. [5] is written "Chh Records."

³ Written above "with," crossed out.

within six months from the time of their Offence make their Peace with the Chh; then the Chh will call upon them.

1741 June 23 At a Chh Meeting Voted That those Persons that stand related to this Chh that have been guilty of scandalous Offences if they do not make their Peace with the Chh in the usual Method, being duely notified, within three months after such Notification, this Chh is Determined to proceed with them.

Voted also That the Deacons be a Comittee to notify those Persons as soon as Conveniently & return an Account when each Person was notified to the Pastor. [6] Chh Records

1740/1 March. The Rev^d M^r *Gilbert Tennent* came hither & Preached Eight Sermons to great Acceptance which by the Blessing of God greatly awakened this People.¹ — After this Several Ministeres of the County & others Visited us & Preached with us. We often Spent whole Days in Prayer Singing & Preaching & had frequently three Exercises in them. I often Preached Three times on the Lords Day my self & Sometimes three or four times in the week besides.

The Subjects chiefly Insisted on were these following the Sin & Apostacy of Mankind in Adam. the blindness of the Natural man in the things of God, the Enmity of the Carnal Mind, the evil of Sin, the Desert of it & the utter inability of the fallen Creature to Relieve it Selfe. the Sovereignty of God, his Knowledge Justice, Holiness, Truth, Power, & Eternity. & the dreadfulness of his Wrath Also his Grace & Mercy in Christ Jesus. the way of Redemption by + ; Justification thro his Imputed Righteousness, recieved by Faith, this Faith the Gift of God, & a living Principle that works by Love. Loyal & Evangelical Repentance: the Nature & Necessity of Regeneration and that without Holiness no man can see God. All Persons were put upon Examining themselves, warned against trusting in their own righteousness which is as filthy Raggs, & resting in the form of Godliness without the Power &c These together with pathetic Invitations to come *Now* & Embrace the Lord Jesus + as freely offered in the Gospel made a wonderful impression on the minds of all Sorts of pple & Men Women & Children were much awaken'd & some (we Believe) were converted.

Jan^r 7, 1741/2. The Rev^d M^r *Crowel* came hither & continued

¹ This word is perhaps written over another word.

in the Town about a *Fortnight*. Preaching in this & Sometimes in the other Parish. At this time I think I may say as *Paul* Doth 1 *Thess*: 1.5 — & 2 Ch: 13 — Hundreds of Souls were at one time in the Meeting House Feb. 13th Crying out in the utmost concern *What they should do to be saved?* & many others rejoycing in the Lord in the sweet sense of his Redeeming Grace & Love in + Jesus as they declared. This Day & at some other times conversions were so open & Public that we Seemed to see Souls Dead in trespasses & Sins Revive & Stand up monuments of divine Grace. It appeared to be a Day of Great Grace.

After this for a considerable time the *Taverns* were much Reformed & the Children forsake their Plays in the Streets and Persons of all Denominations Except a few gave themselves to Reading the Word of God & other Books of Devotion, to Meditation Prayer Conference & other Religious Exercises & refrained from their customary Vices & great Additions were made to the Chh of Such as we hope will be Saved.

A violent Opposition presently arose & prevailed so far that a number [7¹] of this Congregation went out from us into a Distinct *Society* & Nine of the Brethren asked a Dismission from us which was readily granted.

Jan^{ry} 5 Thursday 1743/4 The Rev^d M^r Nathanael Eells Preached the First Sermon in the New Meeting House to those that have separated from us.

Feb^{ry} 2^d 1743/4 The Pastor Stayed the Chh after Lecture. & the Chh Voted that Deacons Atwood & Torrey Notify *Nero* a Negro Man belonging to M^r John Barnes & *Boston* a Negro Man belonging to M^r Thomas Foster that this Chh suspend them from Communion at Present. they having been convicted of Scandalous Offenses before the Civil Magistrate.

Jan^{ry} 6 1744/5 *Boston* a Negro Man belonging to M^r Thomas Foster made Publick confession of his Offense & was Restored. [8] Chh Records

May 4 1744. Lords Day. The Brethren of the Chh were Stayed. & a Letter was Read from 9 of our Brethren of the New Society The Chh Voted. That what followeth should be sent in Answer to their Request.

¹ At the top of p. [7] is written "Church Records."

That Whereas a number of Brethren of the New Society in Fellowship with this Chh Viz Benjamin Warren, Ebenezer Cobb, Samuel Nelson, Nathaniel Holmes, Josiah Carver, Ebenezer Curtis, Judah West, John Nelson, Elisha Doten, have requested us to give our Consent that they may Embody into a Distinct Chh that so they may regularly Proceed to take & settle a Pastor over them in the Lord. These are to Signify that we do give our Consent to s^d Request. Praying that the God of all Grace may Enrich them with all Spiritual Blessings & give them a Pastor after his own heart.

We Subscribe your Brethren in the Faith & fellowship of the Gospel

N L Pastor

in the Name & with consent of y^e Chh

March 28 1745 The Rev^d M^r Silvanus Conant was ordained to the Pastoral Office over the First Chh in Middleborough. O that He may be a Pastor after God's own Heart!

Ap^l 28 1745 Lords Day. The Chh was Stayed after Public Service & the Pastor Notified the Chh to Meet at the Meeting House the Next Thusday at Two o Clock P:M: To know their Minds, weather they would Chose One or More Deacons. & if the Chh should incline to Chuse one or more to that office, & should so cause to proceed then to come to a Choice.

May the great Head of the Chh Direct us in this affair to his Glory.

May 2^d the Chh met at the Time & Place appointed. the Meeting was Opened with Prayer. & this Qury was Proposed wheather the Chh see cause to Proceed at this time to the Choice of One or More Suitable Persons to the Office of Deacons in this Chh.

1 The Chh voted unanimously to Proceed

2. Voted to Chuse two Suitable Persons to the Office of Deacons at this Time The Brethren were then Desired to bring in their Votes & Brother *Thomas Foster* & Brother *Joseph Bartlet* were chosen to the Office of Deacons in this Ch^h. Which Choice the Pastor Declared his Consent to & Requested these our Beloved Brethren to Accept of said office. They Each of them Desired some time of Consideration &c [9] Chh Records

3. The Deacons were Desired to Discourse with Sister Staff in order to bring her to Repentance & Reformation in Reference to her Intemperance

The Chh was then Dismist with Prayer

May 12. Lords Day The Pastor Stayed the Congregation in the fore noon & informed them that the Chh had lately Elected two of our Brethren to the Office of Deacons in this Chh Viz M^r Thomas Foster & M^r Joseph Bartlett. The Pastor also requested these our Brethren to Accept of said office & that in token of their Acceptance they would take their Places in the same Seat with the other Deacons & they did so in the After Noon.

May God make them great Blessings to this Chh & Congregation.

Feb^{ry} 27th 1745/6 This Day departed this Life the the Aged & godly M^r Thomas Faunce ruling Elder of this Chh. in the 47th year of his Office & in the 99th year of his Age. [10] Church Records

March 2^d 1745/6 Lords Day the Pastor Desired the Brethren of the Church to meet together to morrow Morning at Nine of the Clock at this Place

March 3^d The Chh Met together accordingly & Voted

1. That out of Respect & Honour to the Deceased Elder they will do Something towards his Funeral

2. That the Chh in convenient time have a Contrabution among themselves for this Purpose.

The meeting was then Concluded with Prayer

The C^{hh} accordingly made a Contrabution among them selves for the aforesaid Purpose.

Ap^l 27 1746: Lords Day Nero a Negro man Made Confession of his Sin & was Restored. & Dismist from us to the first Chh in Marshfield where he now Dwells.

A Memorandum Of Several Ecclesiastical Councils that the Pastor & Delegates from this C^{hh} have been Sent for & have Assisted in Viz

At Rehoboth first Parish Octo 26 1743. Since that time

At Plimton Second Parish Four times

At Middleborough first Chh Two times

At Duxbury Two times.

At Dorchester Three times

At Sandwich Second Chh once

At Farmingham once

At Hopkington once

At Abbingdon once

At Tiverton the Instalment of y^e Rev^d M^r Campbell
 At Easton y^e Instalment of the Rev^d M^r Prentice
 At Boston Octo^r 7 1748 the Instalm^t¹ of y^e Rev^d M^r Croswel
 At Attleborough Nov^r 30 1748 the Ordination of the Rev^d M^r Peter Thacher
 At Abington Augst 29 1749 the Dismission of y^e Rev^d M^r Brown.

[11] Church Records

Augst 3^d 1749 The Chh was Stayed after Lecture & they made Choice of the Deacons to be a Comitee for the Chh to Discourse with those Persons that Stand i[n] Relation to this Chh who have for some time Absent[ed] themselves from our Co[m]munion. Also with Brothe[r] Samuel Kempton & Sister Rebecca Staffe. & also to call upon Persons that are in Relation to this Chh that have fallen into Scandalous Sins to Make their Peace with God & with the Chh.

Octo 31 1749 The Second Chh in this Town (at Monument Ponds) having Sent Letters to this Chh to advise & Assist them relating to the Dismission of their Revere[d] & beloved Pastor M^r Jonathan Ellis because of the Divisions among them & their inability to Support Him longer. the Elder & Messengers Joyned in Council with the Elders & Messengers of Two other Chhs viz the first Chh in Plimton & the Chh of Hallifax. After Prayer & Hearing the Case the Council Advised the Rev^d M^r Ellis to ask a Dismisⁿ & the Chh to Grant it. Which was accordingly done thô with much Reluctance the far greater part of the[m] yeilding to it only on the Account of their inability to Maintain Him in the Work of the Ministry. freely Recommending Him to the Work of the Ministry & to Communion with other Chhs.

Nov^r 26 A Letter was Read from the Chh in Little Compt[on] desireing the Assistance of this Chh at the intended I[n]stallm^t of the Rev^d M^r Jonathan Ellis the 29th of this M[onth] The Pastor could not go, & the Chh Voted that Broth[er] Samuel Bartlett & Brother Nathanael Foster attend on that Affair as Messengers from this Chh.

March 29 1750 This Day Died (Much Lamented) Deacon Haviland Torry a man of great Piety & Faithfulness Etatis 67.² O that

¹ The first letter in this word has been altered.

² Apparently altered from "57."

God, with whom is the Residue of the Spirit, may repair this great breach & raise us faithf[ul] officers from time to time.

Ap¹ 15 A Letter was read to this Chh from the Pastor & Chh of Duxbury desireing the assistance of this Chh by the Pastor & one Delegate to ¹ Joyn with a Council of Chhs in order for the Dismission of the Rev^d M^r Samuel Veazie from h[is] Pastoral Relation to them. The Chh Chose Deacon Atwood to attend with y^e Pastor. The Council met on Ap¹ 18 which consisted of Four Chhs Viz of Hanover Halifax the first of Marsfeild & this Chh. The Town [12²] of Duxbury being rent with Divisions & having Refused to Support the Pastor for some years past the Council advised them to ask a Dismission & the Chh to Grant it with Reco^mendation for his further Servicableness in the Ministry They readily granted the Reco^mendation but ³ with Reluctance parted with their Pastor. the Council united with the Chh in Reco^mending M^r Veazie to further Service in the Ministry where God should call Him & Faulted the Town for Denying Him a Support & Suffering the House of God to Lay wast.

The remove of many faithful Ministers of late from from the neighbouring Chhs Looks as thô God is departing from us. O Lord God forsake us not but Return & visit the Vines which thine own right hand hath planted, & Pardon the Sins of thy People for thy Name Sake.

[1]751 Ap¹ 4 This Day was observed by this Chh & Congregation in Humiliation & Prayer that God would give us Repentance & turn us from all our Sins, Revive the Languishing State of Religion and Stay the very mortal Fever Now prevailing among us of which many have Died

After Public Worship the Chh was Stay'd & Voted that the Deacons Are Desired to Discourse with those Persons (in Relation to this Chh) that have fallen into Sin & Call upon them to make their Peace with God & the Chh.

Sep^r 15 the Chh was Stayed & our Brother John Torrey was Chosen a Messenger from this Chh to a Council at Easton [13] Chh Records

¹ Altered from "in."

² At the top of p. [12] is written "Chh Records."

³ This word has apparently been altered.

1752 Decem^r 31 Lords Day the Chh was Stayed & a Letter was Read from the first Chh of Norton Desireing the Assistance of this Chh by the Rev^d Elder & Messengers at the Ordination of M^r Joseph Palmer whom they have Chosen to be their Pastor. This Chh Chose Deacon Thomas Foster & Deacon Joseph Bartlett to Attend with the Pastor.

On Jan^{ry} 3^d 1753 A Council of Twelve Chhs Convened at Norton & the Rev^d M^r Palmer was Ordained to the Pastoral Charge of s^d Chh & Congregation by ¹ Prayer & Imposition of Hands. the Pastor of this Chh gave the Charge

O that God may fill Him with his Spirit & Grace and render him a Wise Faithful & Successful Labourer in his Vineyard! Amen.

1753 Sep^r 30 Lords Day the Chh was Stayed & the Pastor informed that He being attended with many Infirmities had tho't of taking a Journey whic He hoped might be a Means by God Blessings towards the recovery ² of his Health. The Chh consented to it, & by a Vote Desired the Deacons to get the Pulpit Supply'd by some suitable Person in the Mean while.

The Text this Afternoon was Ps 122.7 Peace be within thy walls & Prosperity within thy Pallaces. [14] Chh Records

1753 Decem^r 16 Lords Day P M. A Letter was Read to y^e Chh from our Brethren of the Second Chh in this Town Desireing our Presence & Assistance by the Pastor & Messengers At the Ordination of M^r Elijah Packard on the 26th Current. The Chh Voted that y^e Deacons Viz Atwood, Foster, Bartlet &. Doctor Le Baron attend with the Pastor on this Affair

Decem^r 26th Day A Council of Chhs Met in the Second Precinct Viz the 1st & 3^d of Bridgwater & the 1st & 2^d of Plimouth & did unanimously Assist in the Ordination of M^r Elijah Packard to the work of the Gospel Ministry & Pastor over the Flock of Christ in that Place The Rev^d M^r Bacon began with Prayer, the Rev^d M^r Perkins Preached. the Pastor of this Chh gave the Charge & the Rev^d M^r Anger the Right Hand of Fellowship & M^r Packard Blessed the Congregation

May the God & Father of our Lord Jesus Christ make Him a Pastor after his own Heart. Amen.

¹ This word has apparently been altered.

² Written above a word crossed out.

1754¹ Sep^r 15 Lords Day P:M: the Chh was Stayed & the Pastor Appointed a Chh Meeting to be in the Meeting House on Thursday the 3^d of Oct^r next after Lecture. in order to Chuse One or more Deacons as the Chh shall see cause.

The Chh Met on Octo 3 1754. & Voted they were content that but one Deacon should be chosen at this time. they gave their Votes & Brother John Torrey was Elected to the Deacons office by a great Majority. the Meeting was began & Concluded with Prayer. May the God of all Grace fill this his Servant with his Spirit & with wisdom & make Him in all things Faithful. Amen.

1754 Nov^r 16 Ther came hither again the Rev^d M^r George Whitefield & Preached in the Evening it being Saturday 1 Sermon

17 The next Day being Lords Day Three Sermons

18 & the next Day viz Monday Morning 1 Sermon

I waited upon² him to Middleborô where he Preachd again³ on s^d Day May God make him more & more a great Blessing in his Generation & long Preserve his Life & usefulness to⁴ these & other Chhs

July 13 1755 A Letter was Read from the Chh of Duxbury Desiring the Presence & Assistance of this Chh by the Pastor & Delegates to Join with Other Chhs in the Ordination of M^r Charles Turner. The Chh Chose the 3 Deacons Viz Foster, Bartlet & Torey to attend with the Pastor.

The Council Met at Duxbury July 23. consisting of 8 Chhs & Four Ministers & Seven Delegates Dissented from the Ordination⁵ yet the Council Proceeded to the Ordination there being a Majority of the Delegates for it. The Ministers were Equally Divided. [15] Church Records

1755 Decem 7 Lords Day a Letter from the Pastor & Chh of Halifax was read Desiring the Assistance of this Chh by the Pastor & a Delegate to met with other Chhs there on the 24 Instant in order in order Regularly to Dissolve the Pastoral Relation between the Rev^d M^r John Cotton & them He being by the Providence of God incapacitated from further carrying on the Work of the Ministry among

¹ Apparently altered from "1744."

² Here "with" is interlined and perhaps erased.

³ This word has been altered.

⁴ Altered from "in."

⁵ Here the words "but were" are crossed out.

them & the¹ Town having come to an Agreem^t with Him. This Chh Chose Deacon Torrey to go upon this Affair with the Pastor. On the Day aboves^d Viz Decem 24 1755 A Council of Four Chhs met at Halifax viz the 1^s Chh of Plimouth the 1st of Plimton the 2^d of Bridgewater & the 1st of Middleborô & Did Approve of & consent to the Dismission of the Rev^d M^r John Cotton from his Pastoral Relation to that Flock & if God should Restore his bodily Strenth² did Reco^mend Him to the Work of the Ministry else where (if God should call him) as a man well Qualified with Gifts & Grace for s^d Work.

July 4 1756 Lords Day P:M: the Pastor Notified the Brethren to Attend a Chh Meeting tomorrow at 3 Clock at the meeting House

July 5 The Chh accordingly meet. The Meeting was opened with Prayer

1 The Chh Chose a Committee to³ Enquire in to Affair of our Sister Lydia Barnes it being supposed that she was married to Jonathan Samson one that had been husband to her neice and Deacons Foster Bartlet & Torrey were the Com^{tee}

2 The Pastor then Delivered a Paper Directed the Chh & Precinct w^{ch} was as followeth.

TO THE FIRST CHH & PRECINCT OF PLIMOUTH HONOURED & BELOVED —

I find my Strength so much Impaired y^t I need an Assistant in the great & good work of the Gospel Ministry in this Place where I have Laboured many years & where I Desire to finish my Life if it be the wish of God. It is Desired that you would speedily Provide help for the Pulpit that I May not be obliged to Preach Constantly under Present Infirmary. It is also Proposed to your Consideration that you Settle a Colleague with Me in the Ministry. & that we Humble ourselves before God for our Sins & Look to the Lord of the Harvest to send forth a Laborer into this part of his Vineyard that may be a man after his own heart

Desiring your Prayers for me I am your Affectionate Pastor

N LEONARD

¹ Altered from "they."

² This word is obscure.

³ Here "Consid" is crossed out.

Deacon Bartlet & Deacon Torry were Desired to carry s^d Paper & lay it before the Precinct & the Chh was Dismist with Prayer.
[16] Chh Records

1756 Octo. 10 Lords Day P:M. The Pastor Notified the Brethren & Desired them to Attend a Chh Meeting tomorrow at 2 o Clock P:M: in the Meeting House.

Oct^o 11. the Chh Met. & the Chh Meeting was Opened with Prayer Then the Pastor Read the Coppy of the Letter He Sent to the Chh & Precinct in July last past.

1 And the Question was Put Whether the Chh is willing to Come into some Measures for Settling a Person in the Work of the Ministry in this Place with Rev^d M^r Leonard, Provided the Precinct shall Agree thereto, Also Provided the Precinct shall come to an Agreement with the Rev^d M^r Leonard Relating to his Support for the Future Voted in the Affirmative

2^{ly} The Question was put Whether it be the mind of y^s Chh Provided the Precinct shall Consent thereto That Application be Made to M^r Joseph Jackson to Supply the Pulpit for a Month longer than the time already Agreed for Voted in the Affirmative the Meeting Concluded with Prayer

Jan^{ry} 30 1757 Lords Day the Chh was Stayed & the Pastor Appointed a Chh Meeting to be next Thursday after Lecture to Consider further the Case of Sister Lydia Barnes

Feb 3 After Lecture the Chh Stayed & the Meeting being Opened with Prayer Sister Lydia Barnes Appeared & Acknowledged her Contempt of t^s. Authority in the Chh & the Chh forgave Her in that Matter. & then they Voted to make a further Enquiry into the Case of Lydia Barnes & that Brother Sam^l Donham be of the Co^mmittee instead of Deacon Foster to Enquire as in the former Vote [17] Chh Records

Feb 20 1757 Lords Day the Pastor Appointed a Chh Meeting to be in the Meeting House to Morrow at 2 of the Clock P:M:

Feb 21 The Ch^h Attended the Meeting which was opened with Prayer & it was Proposed to the Brethren That they having already Heard a Number of Candidates wheather they see Cause to come to a Choice? They Declined coming to a Choice at Present. It was Further Proposed to the Chh what further Steps they would take towards the calling & Settling a Minister with the Rev^d M^r Leonard.

& After Consideration & the Brethren had Spoken their Minds in the Affair. Voted That it is the Mind of this Chh that Application be made to the Rev^d M^r James Sprout of Gilford in the Colony of Connecticut to come & Preach to us in order to a Settlement with us Provided that the Precinct shall Consent thereto & Chuse some Person to go to Gilford to Invite M^r Sprout to Come to this Place for that Purpose.

2 Voted that it is the Mind of the C^hh if the Precinct shall Chuse a Person to Make Application to the Rev^d M^r Sprout, & if Mr Sprout Declines coming to make further Enquiry after Some Suitable Person to Preach to us upon Probation & to use Endeavours to obtain one.

3 Voted that the Rev^d M^r John Cotton be Desired to Preach to us in the Mean time

These Votes Passed Unanimously.¹ The Meeting was Concluded with Prayer.

March 20th 1757 Lords Day P:M: After Sermon the Pastor Appointed a Chh Meeting to be held in the Meeting House Next Wendsday at 3 o'Clock P:M:

March 23^d Wendsday² The Chh Met & Many Members being absent by Reason of a Severe Storm Adjourned to Friday next at 3 o'Clock P:M:

March 25th Friday. The Chh Met according to the Adjournm^t & after Prayer The Pastor made the Following Request to the Church Viz

BELOVED BRETHREN

God in his Providence having in a great Measure taken me off from my Ministerial Labours [18³] among you by Reason of my many bodily Infirmities I now Move to you to Consent that my Pastoral Relation to you might be Dissolved at such time as the Chh shall think Convenient, and that it may be done by the Advice of an Ecclesiastical Council & with Proper Recommendation from you to the Work of the Ministry if God should Restore my Health again & to the Communion of the Chhs or any particular Chh I shall Desire to be Recommended to

Your Affectionate Pastor

NATHANAEL LEONARD

¹ Written above "without any Negative voice," crossed out.

² The letter "W" is written over "Tu."

³ At the top of p. [18] is written "Chh Records."

This was Voted in the affirmative.

2^{ly} Voted That the Actual Dismission of the Rev^d M^r Leonard from the Work of the Ministry in this Place shall be Defered till the Settling another Minister in this Chh; & the Same Council that shall be Here on that Occasion shall also Assist in the Dismission of the Rev^d Leonard.

3^{ly} The Question was put, Whether the Chh would Chuse a Comitte for the Calling of Chh Meetings in M^r Leonards Absence? Voted in the Affermative & that the Number should Consist of Three Viz Deacon Tho^s Foster, Deacon Joseph Bartlet & Deacon John Torrey. Then the Chh Moved to the Rev^d Pastor, That when such Meeting shall be¹ Called in his Absence They should have full Power to Chuse a Moderator to Regulate said Meeting? And the Pastor in the Presence of the Chh Consented

4^{ly} Voted that the Rev^d M^r Leonard May if He Thinks Propper Remove with his Family from this Town before his Pastoral Relation be Dissolved.

And then the Pastor Concluded the Meeting with Prayer & Benediction The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with this Flock & Bless us & our Children forever. Amen.² [19]

1757³ The Precinct having concurred with the Chh^s vote to make application to the Rev^d M^r Sprout as in P. 17.⁴ — Deacon Torrey was sent to invite him. — Accordingly M^r Sprout came, and preacht to us. 3. Sabbath in May Viz. the 8th 15th & 22^d

On the 22^d The Committee chosen to call Church Meetings in the Pastor's absence, warned the Chh to meet on the morrow at 1. a'clock PM in the meeting House in order to proceed to the Choice of a Pastor if they tho't proper.

May. 23. The Chh met at the meeting House according to warning, and chose M^r John Cotton Moderator. — After Prayers for Direction, A free Conference followed, in which (to satisfy one or two objecting Brethren) both the Lawfulness & expediency of M^r Sprout's Removal was urged. — That all the reformed Chhs held, that it was lawful to remove minister's for the greater good of the

¹ The words "shall be" are written above "was," crossed out.

² The entries in the hand of Mr. Leonard here cease.

³ The entries on p. [19] and part of p. [20] of the text — or pp. 305-307 of this volume — are in the hand of Mr. John Cotton.

⁴ P. [17] of the text, or p. 304 of this volume.

Chh, for want of due support &c. and they practised accordingly. — Several Instances of this Nature occur in the Chhes of New-England even from the beginning, which are the strictest of all upon this Head.

And the *expediency* of *M^r Sprout's* Removal was urged from the peculiar Circumstances of the People in this Place, as well as that of his own Flock; which (according to the accounts we had) might be better accommodated by being reunited to the old Parish of *Guilford* — from which they had before departed — than continuing as a distinct Society — The Cause of their offence & secession from that Church being in a great measure, removed. — &c. &c.

After Discourse, The Chh Voted to proceed immediately to the Choice of a Pastor. — And bringing in their Votes in writing, upon counting them It appeared that every Vote was for the Rev^d M^r James Sprout Viz. 44.

Next, The Church chose D^r Le Baron, Coll^l Watson, M^r Spooner, M^r Mayhew & their former Committee to present these Votes to the Precinct and also to the Rev^d M^r Sprout in Case the Precinct concur with the Choice.

Finally, the Church Voted to request M^r John Cotton to supply the Pulpit, till they hear further from the Rev^d M^r Sprout.

Att. JN^o COTTON Mod^r

The Precinct having concurred with the Chh in the Call by a general Vote, The same was preferred by the Chh & Precinct-Committee to M^r *Sprout*, who took the affair into Consideration & returned home to *Guilford*. — Sometime after He informed us by Letters, that his Church refused to dismiss him and likewise wholly declined joyning with him in Council to ask Advice & Direction in the Affair. Upon which after some months, he called a Council himself. — of which he apprised this Church — upon which the Chh Com^{it}tee Oct. 9, called a Chh-Meeting to be on the next Day, to chuse some persons to represent them before said Council.

October. 10. 1757. The Chh met at the Meeting House — and chose M^r John Cotton moderator. — The Meeting was opened with Prayer. — And after Consideration the following Vote past.

Inasmuch as the Rev^d M^r James *Sprout* has sent for a Council [20] to meet the 3^d Tuesday of this Instant October, in order to ad-

wise him with respect to the Call this Church have given him to take the pastoral Charge over them, It was Voted by the Church (that in case the Precinct concur) To send Thomas Foster Esq^r & D^r Lazarus LeBaron to represent them before said Council and to do & act all & every Thing that they may think proper in the affair for the regular obtaining the said M^r Sprout. — And if they fail of success, then to apply to some Candidate for the ministry to come & preach among us upon Probation.

Test. JN^o COTTON Mod^r

The Committee above (being likewise chosen by the Precinct) attended the Council at *Guilford* Oct. 18. And after laying the Affair before them, the Council came to a Result, as follows.¹

At ² a Meeting of an Ecclesiastical Council conven^d at Guilford Oct^r 18. 1757. at y^e Desire of the Rev^d M^r James Sproutt to hear & consider a Call to the pastoral Charge of y^e first Chh in Plymouth, to him from thence, & to look into the whole Affair & advise him what to do.

Present

	Elders	Messengers	Churches
Rev ^d Mess ^{rs}	Jedediah Mills	M ^r Sam ^l De'Forest	Ripton
	Philemon Robbins	D ⁿ Edw ^d Barker	Branford
	William Gaylord		Wilton
	Dan ^l Humphrey	D ⁿ Dan ^l Holbrook Esq ^r	Derby
	Eleazar Wheelock	M ^r Josiah Finney	Lebanon
	Joseph Bellamy	Dan ^{ll} Everett Esq ^r	Bethlem
	Mark Leavenworth	Tho ^s Brownson Esq ^r	Waterbury

The Rev^d M^r Mills was chosen Moderator — & the Rev^d M^r Bellamy Scribe — After Solemn Pray^r to God for Wisdom & Direction the Council adjourn^d till tomorrow Morning 7 O'Clock.

Oct^r 19th The Council met according to Adjournment — The Rev^d M^r Sproutt appear^d before y^e Council, & gave a Narrative of y^e State of his people at Guilford, & his Conduct relating to his Call at Plym^o from y^e Beginning of the Affair to y^e present Time. — Two Gent^{le} a Comittee from the first Church & Society at Plym^o viz Thom^s Foster Esq^r & Doct Larazus LeBaron appear^d also before y^e Council, & urged the Lawfulness of removing Ministers & y^e great Necessity of

¹ Here the entries in Mr. Cotton's hand cease.

² The entries from here to the point indicated on p. [22] of the text — or p. 310 of this volume — are in an unidentified hand, perhaps that of the Rev. Chandler Robbins.

one being remov^d for them — & y^e particular Reasons why M^r Sproutt sh^d be the Man. — The C^{hh} in y^e 4th Society in Guilford also appear^d before y^e Council, & offer^d their Reasons why M^r Sproutt ought not to be remov^d — The whole was taken into Consideration, And after mature Deliberation, the Council came into y^e following Resolves —

1. That notwithstanding y^e Cov^t Relation between Ministers & their People, a Minister may when y^e greater Good of Christ's C^{hh} evidently calls for it be lawfully remov^d to another Church & Congregation.

2. That such an important Affair ought to be¹ referr^d to an Ecclesiastical Council by y^e Parties concern^d

The Council adjourn^d till tomorrow at 7 O Clock in ye Morning

Oct^r 20 — Met according to Adjournment & resolv^d

3. That althô y^e Necessities of y^e first C^{hh} & Congregation in Plymouth, appear so great, that we cannot say but that it is best some Ministers be remov^d for them, and though we well approve the steps they have taken [21] Yet the 4th Society in Guilford is so situate, and attended with such peculiar Difficulties, that we cannot be satisfy^d that 'tis best M^r Sproutt be remov^d — but advise him to continue in his present Station; heartily wishing the great Head of y^e C^{hh} may Yet lead his ² People at Plymouth to a Pastor after his own Heart. — And in a Sense of their piteous Case, as represented to Us, we recommend it to them still to persevere in y^e Use of all proper Means to obtain a faithful Minister, not withstanding y^e great Discouragements they have hitherto met with

A True Copy Test

JOSEPH BELLAMY Scribe

Upon this Result, the Co^mittee return^d to Plymouth & some Days after, came the following Letter from y^e Rev^d M^r Sproutt to ye Chh & Congregation in Plym^o directed to Thomas Foster Esq^r. — Viz

GUILFORD Octob^r 25. 1757.

To y^e first C^{hh} of Christ in Plymouth & y^e Congregation

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHERN & FRIENDS!

I have frequently set down to write with an aking Heart & trembling Hands on many Occasions; but don't remember ever more than at this Time, when I am constrain^d in Point of Honour, Gratitude & Duty to write to a people for whom I have had so much Concern, who have been so peculiarly dear to me & to whom (I must confess) I had some pleas-

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

ing Expectations of standing in a nearer Relation. My Heart & Affections are much with You: & if you thought my poor Labours might have been for Soul Advantage to You & your Children, & are sad at y^e Tydings which you doubtless have receiv^d before this Time, by your Dear & faithful Representatives — I may say, In all your Afflictions I am afflicted. — I firmly believe a Universal Providence — and trust I can say with some Sincerity, am inwardly pleas^d that y^e Lord God omnipotent reigneth; And acquiesce in the Disposing Will of the great Redeemer who is Head over all Things for his Church. — As to the Affair of my Removal to Plymouth, which has for Months past lain so heavy on my Mind, I feel satisfy^d that I have taken such Steps to know y^e Mind of God, as are not only approv^d by my Rev^d Fathers & Brethren, but also by my own Conscience, & therefore rest in the Council's Result as a Declaration of y^e Mind of God ¹ at present. — I freely acknowledge myself unworthy of y^e Respect you have manifested for me at Plymouth — Yet since my Labours have been acceptable to You, & you have manifested such Regard for them, I as freely own, my heart is affected that I may not spend my Life among so Dear a People, in so pleasant a Place, & where I might have pleasing Prospects of extensive Usefulness. — Your dear Agents have acted here, in the most faithful, pressing genteel but yet Engaging Manner: — By their truly Christian & affecting Representation of the Circumstances of Plym^o, they gain^d ² Esteem & Honor to themselves, & the most tender Love & Concern for the Church they represented; both in the Council & in the Hearts of all By-Standers. — I trust the C^{hh} at Plym^o is founded on y^e Everlasting Rock of Ages, & that the Gates of Hell shall never prevail agst it. — & D^r Brethren, Sisters & Children, my H^t is open tow^{ds} You, & let me yet tell you the Redeemer reigns, is y^e great Sheph^d of the Sheep, & has as tender Regard for them, Yea, & for the Lambs of y^e Flock as ever. — In my poor Requests at y^e Throne of Grace (before w^{ch} I trust you^{ll} often be found bowing y^e Knee in humble Supplications) Plymouth's Destitute Circumstances shall be remember^d by me till indulgent Heaven grants them one of Christ's Ascension Gifts, even a Pastor after Gods own Heart. — Let me suppose I had a few Minutes to spend ³ wth You. — I w^d fill them up in Exhorting You to stand fast in y^e Faith, in the Name of y^e Lord to erect your Spiritual Banners, & watch against all false Principles & Doctrines: for the Redeemers Sake maintain the Unity of y^e Sp^t in the Bond of Peace. — On one Hand, take heed, &

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

² Here a word is crossed out.

³ Written, apparently, in the hand of Mr. John Cotton, over another word.

do not Encourage those Doctrines which are Derogatory to sovereign Grace in Christ — On the other, cautiously avoid Enthusiastick & Seperating Principles w^{ch} have prov^d of such fatal & pernicious Consequence in many flourishing Churches in New England.

It seems by y^e Providence of God my Station is fix^d for the present: & though I love my little Flock here, & hope I may do something for G^d in these Parts, yet my Heart is much with You, & I gr^ly rejoice that Christ hath so great an Interest in Plymouth; & hope you will have pre-ailing Power at y^e Throne of Grace. [22] If Providence sho^d give me Opportunity to visit my Friends in that Part of y^e Country, I purpose as *Paul* said in another Case, to Visit the Brethren at Plymouth & see how they do. — This I think I can say gives me no small Comfort, that I hope to meet many of you, in a little Time (thrô the Riches of Redeeming Love) in a better World, where there will be no sad Hearts. — May Almighty God bless you & shed abroad his Love in your Hearts by the holy Ghost, preserve you in Peace & Unity — shower down plentifully upon you converting & sanctifying Grace, & in his Own Way & Time supplie you with a Pastor after his own Heart; wth one y^t shall be constrain^d from the Love he has to y^e Great Shepherd, to feed his Sheep & tender Lambs. — I commend you all to y^e Mercy of God in Christ to y^e good Word of his Grace, w^{ch} is able to make you wise unto Etern^l Salvation thro' Faith w^{ch} is in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all Amen.

I am your Affectionate Serv^t in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

JAMES SPROUTT.¹

Thus ² this poor Chh being disappointed in their Hopes of obtaining Mr Sprout (altho' as we have been informed above one Half of the ministers in the Council favoured his Removal, but were over-voted by the Messengers) They agreed upon a Day of Fasting & Prayer for Direction under their present Difficulties; which was accordingly attended on the 9th of November — several neighbouring Ministers being present. — And at the Close of it, the Co^mittee warned a Church Meeting to be the next Day at 1. a clock “to consider what further steps were proper to be taken for the calling & settling a minister or supplying the Pulpit at present.” — [For the Co^mittee that went to Connecticut had not procured

¹ Here the unidentified hand ceases.

² From here to the bottom of p. [23] of the text — or p. 312 of this volume — the entries are in the hand of Mr. John Cotton.

any Candidate — as they were cōmissioned to do in case of M^r *Sprout's* Failure — They not hearing of any suitable one, altho' they had asked the advice & Direction of the Council.]¹

November. 10. 1757. The Chh met at the Meeting House — and M^r John Cotton was chosen Moderator. — After Prayers &c. The Church Voted

1. That they would hear. 4. Candidates for the ministry on Probation each for the space of 4. Sabbaths at least.

2. Voted that the Chh^s present Co^mittee Viz Deacon Foster Deacon Bartlett & Deacon Torrey (Together with such as the Precinct shall joyn with them) should be a Co^mittee to look out for said Candidates as speedily as may be.

Attest JOHN COTTON Mod^r

The Precinct having concurred and joyned 4. to the Church Co^mittee, They first procured M^r *Stephen Minot*, who preach'd from November .20. to the middle of December. — Then M^r *Livermore*, who preach'd from Jany. 15. to Feby. 6. 1758. — The 3^d Candidate was M^r *Stephen West*, who preached his month from Feby. 26. — and continued preaching two months longer at the Request of the Precinct to May. 12.

[During which Term Viz. April. 9. The Rev^d M^r *Patten* of Hallifax at the Request of the Chh administred the ordinance of the Lord's Supper to them — as also did the Rev^d M^r *Wheelock* of Lebanon some months after August. 20.]²

Lastly, M^r *Locke* was procured, who preach'd May. 28. June. 4. & 11. three Sabbaths — Being then obliged to leave us, because of his engagements at College. [23]

At a Meeting of the 1st Chh of Christ in Plymouth (duely warned by the Chh Co^mittee) at the Meeting House June. 27. 1758.

1. M^r John Cotton chosen Moderator, who opened the Meeting with Prayer.

2. Voted that the Church will not at this Time proceed to the Choice of a Pastor.

3. Voted to make further Application to M^r *Samuel Lock* to supply the Pulpit for 4. Sabbaths as soon as he conveniently can.

¹ The square brackets are in the original.

² The square brackets are in the original.

4. Voted That the former Church Committee *Viz.* Deacon Foster, Deacon Bartlett & Deacon Torrey should lay the Votes of the Church before the Precinct for their Consideration & Concurrence.

5. Voted that Mr John Cotton should be applied to, to supply the pulpit till we hear further from Mr *Lock*.

Attest JOHN COTTON Mod^r.

Pursuant to this (and the Precinct's) Vote, Mr *Lock* was again invited — and preach'd at Plym^o Aug. 20. PM. & 27. Sept. 3. 10. & 14. on the general Thanksgiving for taking *Cape-Breton*.

At a Church Meeting of the first Church of Christ in Plym^o duely warned & met together in the Meeting House in the first Precinct in said Plymouth upon Friday the 15th of September 1758.

Thomas Foster Esqr was chosen Moderator. — And after Prayer to God for Direction.

1st The Question was put, whether the Chh would at this Time come to the Choice of a Pastor? It passed in the negative.

2^d Voted that application be made to Mr *Lock* to preach four Sabbaths more upon Probation with us.

3^d Voted that George Watson Esqr be chosen to joyn with a Committee of the Precinct to make application to Mr *Lock* to preach with us agreeable to said Vote.

4th Voted that this Meeting be adjourned to Monday the 25th of this month at two a'clock in the Afternoon to meet at this Place.— And said Meeting was accordingly adjourned.

THOMAS FOSTER Moderator.

Mr *Lock* being applied to agreeable to the Vote above, refused to preach further upon Probation with us. — And the Pulpit was chiefly supplied by Mr Cotton, till the 17th of December.

[The Candidates that preacht before Mr *Leonard's* Removal, from July 1756. to May 1757. were Mr Solomon Reed — Mr Joseph Jackson — Mr Smith of Casco-Bay — Mr Dana — Mr Jonas Meriam — Rev^d Josiah Cotton — Mr Thomas Brown.]¹

Nov^r 1758² at a Church meeting of y^e first Chh in y^e meeting

¹ The square brackets are in the original. Here the hand of Mr. Cotton ceases.

² From here to the end of p. [34] of the text — or p. 322 of this volume — the entries are in the hand of Deacon Thomas Foster.

house duly warnd Tho^s Foster Esq^r moderator Voted y^t a Com^m^{tee} be Chosen to Joyn with y^e Precinct to procure some suitable person to Preach for two months Voted that the Deacons be y^e Com^m^{tee} for that purpose y^e Vote was Lay^d before the Precinct & the Precinct Concurred on the Vote. [24]

1758 Dec^r 17th M^r Job Whitney began to Preach amongst us and to good acceptance Till the 22^d of Jan^y 1759 upon which day the Church being duly warned met in y^e meeting house in the first Precinct Thomas Foster Esq^{re} was Chosen moderator & then Voted that application be made to M^r Job Whitney to Preach to us four Sabbaths more before we Come to a Choice then Voted y^t Deacon Foster Deacon Bartlett & deacon Torrey be a Com^m^{tee} to make application to M^r Whitney to supply y^e Pulpit agreeable to y^e Vote and then Voted that these Votes be laid before the Precinct for their Concurrence. which was accordingly done and the Precinct Concured with y^e Church, and M^r Whitney Preached four Sabbaths Longer. Saving that upon the 21st day of Jan^y in y^e forenoon, M^r Sprout Preached and administred the Sacrament.

February 19th 1759 At a Church meeting duely warned In order to Come to the Choice of a Pastor if the Church should Incline to it, The Church mett in the meeting house in the First Precinct. and Thomas Foster Esq^r was Chosen moderator the meeting being opened with Prayer and there being thirty four members Present

The Question was first put whether the Church were now Determined to Come to the Choice of a Pastor Voted in the affirmative and M^r Job Whitney was Chosen by a Considerable majority, and y^e Vote Draughted in The Following Form Viz after as a Church Bewailing the Frowns of Divine Providence in taking away y^e usefulness of our Dear Pastor y^e Rev^d M^r Nathaniel Leonard from us by Bodily Infirmities, For whom we have a sincere Love and shall not cease to Pray For, as Long as God shall spare his life, Lamenting also our Great Barrenness and unfruitfulness under his Soul Searching ministry, who while with us Break y^e Bread of life to us & Nourished us up in the words of faith and sound Doctrine, and Doubt not but he has had many Seals of his ministry, and many that at the Great day will be his Crown & Joy, Beleiving this flock over which y^e holy Ghost made & Continued him So long an overseer will yet be dear to him & always be Interested in his prayers So long

as God Continues him in this vale of Tears Though his Pastoral Relation to us shall be Dissolved—and after serious Consideration and earnest applications to the Great head of the Church to bestow on us a Precious [25] Ascension Gift of our ascended Lord & Divine Redeemer even a Pastor after Gods own heart; & having had Tryal of the ministerial Gifts & Pulpit Abillities of M^r Job Whitney For ten Sabbaths Past, and being in a Good measure Satisfyed with them. The Votes of y^e Church were Called for by the moderator to be brought In in writing which when sorted & Counted it appeared that M^r Job Whitney was Chosen to the Pastoral office in this Church there being 28 Votes for him one for M^r Sprout and five y^t Did not Vote

Then the Question was put whither it be the mind of this Church if the Precinct Concur their Choice that before M^r Whitney Gives his answer (in case he accept the Call) he should Give his assent & Consent to the New England Confession of faith Commonly Received in these Churches or Exhibit one to the C^{hhs} in writing to their satisfaction. It Passed in y^e Affirmative.

Then the Church Voted That Thomas Foster Joseph Bartlett and John Torrey be a Com^{tee} to Lay the Votes of the Church before the first Precinct in Plymouth at a meeting Called for that purpose, for their Concurrence

Then the Church Voted that Joseph Bartlett George Watson and Lazarus LeBaron be a Com^{tee} to Joyn with a Com^{tee} of the Precinct (if they Concur the Churches Choice) of M^r Job Whitney To the¹ Pastoral office in this Church & Congregation, To Cause the Votes of Church & Precinct in some suitable manner to be laid before M^r Whitney for his acceptance Praying that the Great head of the Church would Incline his heart to accept of y^e Call and take upon him the Charge of this Flock if it may be for y^e Glory of God & Good of this People, and that he may Come to us in the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ Jesus our Lord & prove a Rich Blessing To us and our families and to the Children that are yet to be born, that so he that Sows & they that Reap may at Last Rejoyce together Amen

A meeting of the Precinct was Called accordingly and Concurred with the Churches Choice of M^r Job Whitney and Voted him a

¹ The words "To the" are apparently written over "for this."

Salary & Chose a Com^{tee} to Joyn ye Churches Com^{tee} in Laying y^e Votes of Church & Precinct before M^r Whitney for his Consideration and answer, which was done M^r Whitney then went out of Town & Sent M^r Potter the minister of Brookline who Preached with us two Sabbaths Viz March the 11th & March the 18th [26] and upon the Last Sabbath administred the Sacrament and then M^r Whitney Came & Preached to us one Sabbath and Gave his answer as Follows, Viz

To Mess^{rs} Thomas Foster Esq^r George Watson Esq^r Deacon Joseph Bartlett Deacon John Torrey Doctr Larazus LeBaron Thomas Spooner Thomas Mayhew & Barnabas Hodge a Com^{tee} Chosen by the First Church & Precinct in Plymouth To Present me with a Call From Said Chh & Precinct to Settle in the work of the Gospel ministry with them

Gentlemen Please to Communicate the Following to Said Church & Precinct

TO THE FIRST CHURCH & PRECINCT IN PLYMOUTH

Dearly beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ, after Returning you my Greatfull acknowledgments, for the Civil and Christian Like Treatment you have shewn me during the time of our acquaintance, as also for your kind and generous Invitation to me to Settle with you in the work of the Gospel ministry; I would Inform you that I have taken your Invitation into Consideration, and having Seriously and maturely Considered the Same, and likewise asked advice of those whom I apprehend by their wisdom and Experience to be well Qualified to Give advice; as well as of him who is able to direct us in the most Difficult and Intricate¹ Cases. I beleive it to be my duty to Refuse a Compliance with your Invitation. — and Give me leave to assure you that this my Refusal does not arise from a Disregard to you or to your Interest — It is with Tender Concern I Veiw your Present unsettled Broken & Divided State. And Had I Just Grounds to beleive it was in my power by a Common Blessing of heaven to Render you a United and happy *people* I assure you that a will to Perform it would not be wanting, Peace & unanimity are great Blessings both in Chh & State. I would by no means willingly be accessory to the making or² Increasing Divisions and annamosities amongst any of my Christian Brethren, which I apprehend would Inevitably be the Case (without a Remarkable In-

¹ Here "affairs" is crossed out.

² Written above "and," crossed out.

terposition of Divine Providence) should I accept of your Invitation when such a number of the people are so averse to my Settling [27] That more than twenty of them have by a Letter directed to me declared that they Cannot be easy with my Settling but will do every thing that lyes in their Power (in Case their be occasion for it) to prevent it, while this is the Disposition of So Large a number of the People towards me, The Consequences of my Settling with you will in all Probability be very unhappy both for you & for me, and as these Gentlemen who are so averse to my Settling with you declare that it is not from an Dislike to my Doctrine or moral Character that they oppose my Settling, but because they have a great desire to obtain the Rev^d M^r Sprout, I apprehend it would be Intirely in Vain for me to attempt to Reconcile them to a thing to which they are So very averse, this opposition¹ maturely Considered will appear I beleive to every unpreJudiced person a very sufficient Reason for my Refusing a Compliance with your Invitation

And Now my Christian freinds & Brethren, wishing that the God of all grace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ that Great head of the Church would be Pleased to shower down upon this his Chh & people the best of Blessings Temporal & Spiritual, that he wo'd Indow you with every Christian grace & Virtue, and afford you all that wisdom from on high which is Profitable to direct you, that he would Inspire your minds with Sentiments of Love towards Each other of Brotherly kindness & Charity, and in due time bestow upon you a Pastor after his own heart,

I subscribe my self your affectionate and Sincere Freind & very humble Servant in our Common Lord and Redeemer

JOB WHITNEY.

The above named M^r Whitney died Since and² was Never Settled in the ministry any where; tho' he had a Call from the first Chh in *Marblehead*.³

Then after M^r Whittney went away M^r Samuel West of Barnstable & M^r Cotton Supplied the Pulpit for some time. Till M^r Potter of Brookline was dismist from his people & application was made to him Saving M^r Livermore preachd to us one Sabbath [28]

Upon the fifth of April 1759 was held a meeting of the first Church

¹ Here "will" is crossed out.

² Here "was" is crossed out.

³ The words "tho' he had a Call from the first Chh in *Marblehead*" are inserted in the hand of Mr. John Cotton.

in Plymouth in their meeting house in the first Precinct the Church being duly Notified¹ to Consider what steps might be Proper to be taken Relative to our ministerial affairs

The meeting was opened with prayer and first Voted that Thomas Foster George Watson Doctor LeBaron Joseph Bartlett John Torrey Thomas Mayhew and Thomas Spooner be a Com^{tee} to Consider what Steps may be proper for the Church to take under our present Difficulties Relative to the settling a minister and what steps may be best to be taken as to Supplying the Pulpit. and Report their opinions to the Church at their meeting upon the adjournment,

Then Voted that the meeting be adjourned to Monday the 23^d of April Instant at two aClock in the afternoon at which time the meeting was adjourned to meet in y^e Said meeting house

This Com^{tee} mett & Considered² affairs severall times and our having accounts that M^r Potter of Brookline & his people were like to part & hearing nothing there against M^r Potters moral Character and finding So many of our people Inclined to give him a Call in Case of his being fairly Dismissed from his Pastoral office at Brookline tho't it much best to wait & See how affairs went at Brookline before we made any further attempts to Settle, but still made no written Report to the Church but verbally Informed them of our [29] Opinion and that we thôt it best to wait and See if M^r Potter & his people should part. which seemed Satisfactory. but hearing nothing further upon Lorday day y^e 22 of April y^e Chh was Stayed & Voted y^t meeting be further adjourned to monday y^e 27th of April,³ at two aClock in the afternoon, still hearing nothing from Brookline nothing further was done only the meeting was adjourned a week Longer and if nothing was further heard y^e meeting not be attended accordingly it fell thr^o — but hearing M^r Potter & his people were parted application was made to him — and he Came the 28th of June following Turn over [30]

the 28th of June 1759 M^r Potter preached to us upon a fast day & upon the Sabbaths of July y^e first & July the 8th

July 9th 1751⁴ At a Church meeting duly Notified the Church

¹ Here "the" is crossed out.

² Here "of" is crossed out.

³ Here "but" is crossed out.

⁴ An evident error for "1759."

mett at the meeting house in the first Precinct and Thomas Foster was Chosen Moderator

Then the meeting being opened with prayer The Question was put whether the C^{hh} would now proceed to the Choice of a Pastor Voted in the affirmative, thirty members being present Sixteen members Voted to Come to a Choice Then the members were Called upon to bring in their Votes for a Pastor there being then 31 members Present and upon Sorting & Counting the Votes it appeared that The Rev^d M^r Nathaniel Potter was Chosen to the Pastoral Office over this Church he having Nineteen Votes out of 31 Voters there being no more present

Then the Church Voted to Chose George Watson Larazus LeBaron & Thomas Mayhew A ¹ Com^{tee} to cause the Votes of the Church & Precinct (in Case the Precinct Concur the Churches Choice) to be laid before M^r Potter for his acceptance as also to Lay the Votes of the Church before the Precinct for their Concurrence. which was done at a meeting Called for that purpose & the Precinct Concured the Churches Choice. M^r Potter while he had The Call under Consideration sent M^r Baily who preach^t three Sabbaths & M^r Livermore who preached two Sabbaths, in which time some melancholy things opened with Respect to M^r Potters moral Charecter and then he Sent us his answer as Follows

BROOKLINE August 16th 1759

DEARLY BELOVED

It will be sufficient to Inform you that such is the state and Posture of things with Regard to me as will not Permit me to accept your Invitation. I do therefore by these give you a Denial wishing you a Pastor after Gods own heart and all Spiritual Prosperity. I beg your prayers for me, now I have left the Sacred work, and for my family

I am your very humble Servant

NATHANIEL POTTER

Thus this poor Church seemed to be saved from Ruine. [31]

Then the Church appointed August the 23 to be kept as a day of fasting and prayer and to seek direction from God with Respect to our ministerial affairs.² Passed the following Vote, to be Read to

¹ Written over another word.

² Written over another word.

y^e Congregation upon y^e Lords day which was accordingly Read & the Congregation ¹ very unanimously attendd the fast the Vote is as follows Viz This Church Considering the many Frowns of Divine providence upon them & Especially Their ² Disappointments with Regard to the Resetling the Gospel and ordinances of Christ among them have agreed to Sett apart ³ Thursday the 23: of August currant as ⁴ a day of fasting and prayer to humble themselves before God for their Sins and to Seek of him the great Blessing of a faithful minister of Jesus Christ, and they earnestly desire the Congregation to Joyn with them in observing and keeping the day & Pleading with God for this Blessing, and the Blessings of Love & Peace that the God of Love & peace may yet dwell with us & bless us. — and the day was kept by Chh & Congregation the ministers Called in to assist us upon y^e Fast were ⁵ Mess^{rs} Angier Shaw Parker & Conant, M^r Angier & Shaw Preached M^r Parker & M^r Conant also prayed

Application was made to y^e above named ministers to Recommend some Candidate to us but they Could not Recommend any that they had any good degree of acquaintance with, at Least were not United in any to advise us to.

Monday the 27th of August at a Church meeting duly Notified Tho^s Foster was Chosen moderator, the meeting was opened with Prayer and then held a Considerable Conference Relating to what steps were proper for y^e Church to take under our Difficulties but Considering there were so few Brethren at the meeting the meeting was adjourned to Monday y^e 3^d of September Next to meet at y^e meeting house in the first Precinct at three aClock in y^e afternoon. The Chh mett at the adjournment y^e meeting was opened with prayer

1 Voted that some Person be Chosen to go to Connecticut and there to Confer with those ministers that were at the Councell at Guilford when this Church & Congregation made application to the Rev^d M^r Sprout to settle with us in the ministry and take their & other ministers [32] Advice with Regard to making a second application to y^e Rev^d M^r Sprout to settle with us and to Confer with

¹ Here the words "in a" are crossed out.

² This word has been altered.

³ Here a word is crossed out.

⁴ This word has been altered.

⁵ Altered from "was."

the Rev^d M^r Sprout & with his Church and see if there be any opening or grounds to hope that M^r Sproute may be peaceably obtained if this Church and Congregation should Renew¹ their Call and application to him and to make Report to this Church & Congregation Also if there be no encouragement of M^r Sprouts being obtained to See if a Candidate maynt be obtained to Come and preach to us for two or three months, or if their should be Encouragement of obtaining M^r Sproute to Endeavor to procure a Candidate to preach to us for some time at least So long as y^e Church & Congregation shall have Determined whether they will make another application to y^e Rev^d M^r Sprout or not

2 Voted that Thomas Foster Esq^r be the person to go to Conecticut & make application to the ministers &c agreeable to the Vote of the Church

3 Voted that Deacon Bartlett George Watson Esq^r & Thomas Mayhew be a Com^{tee} to Joyn with a Com^{tee} of the Precinct to procure some proper Person to Supply y^e Pulpit for the three Coming Sabbaths

4 Voted that y^e moderator Lay these Votes before the Precinct for their Concurrence and for the Precinct if they See Cause to Chose Some proper person to go to Connecticut with Deacon Foster upon y^e Business mention^d in the Votes of the Church

These Votes were Laid before the Precinct y^e Precinct Concured them Chose a Com^{tee} to Joyn y^e Churchs in providing Some proper person to Supply y^e pulpit. & Deacon Foster to go to Conecticut.

Accordingly Mr Williamson of Philadelphia who was in these parts was obtained to Preach the three Sabbaths, & Deacon Foster went to New haven it being their Commencement, advised with y^e former Councell & a number of other ministers who advised y^t M^r Bellamy² should go with him to Guilford and Confer with M^r Sprouts Chh & Congregation about M^r Sprouts Removal to Plymouth and³ [33] See if they Cod not be pravailld with to Consent y^t M^r Sprout should go to Plymouth or Joyn with the C^{hh} of Plymouth In Calling another Councell to advse them in y^e affair. M^r Bellamy⁴

¹ Altered from "renewed."

² The fifth letter in this name has been altered.

³ This word is in the hand of Mr. John Cotton.

⁴ The fifth letter in this word has been altered.

accordingly went and spent several days there & took a great deal of pains with the people to bring them to one or the other of y^e fore-mentioned proposals but they would Consent to nothing nor Conde- send in the Least to any proposals Relatave to M^r Sprouts Removal, when all hopes as to M^r Sprout faild M^r Chandler Robbins was advised to as a Candidate who then had a Call under his Consid- eration from y^e Church & Society in Middlefeild in Connecticutt accordingly I applyed to him who after some time of Consideration & taking advice Concluded to Give a Negative Answer to middle- feild & Come to Plymouth. I Returned to Plym^o a Saturday night before the Last day of M^r Williamson^s Preaching Expired the Chh & Congregation was stayed aftr Service was over at Night & I Re- ported what I had done and the Next Sabbath M^r Robbins Came and began to Preach with us and Continued to Preach to us, to the 30th of October 1759, when the Church had a meeting in the meeting house in the First Precinct upon Tuseday¹ of y^e s^d 30th of October at two aClock in the afternoon The Church being duly Notified Thomas Foster was Chosen Moderator and the meeting was opened with prayer

The Question was first put whether the Chh wod now Come to y^e Choice of a Pastor it Passed in the affirmative there being only 2 Votes to the Contrary Then the moderator Called upon the Brethren to bring in their Votes for a Pastor in writing (there being 36 Votes present) and aftr Serious Consideration & Earnest application to the throne of grace for Direction and that God wo'd favor this Chh with a rich ascension Gift of our ascended Lord & Redeemer the Votes being brought in upon Sorting & Numbring the Same it ap- peared that M^r Chandler Robbins had 33 Votes Mr Hugh William- son two & one member y^t did not Vote [34]

Then the Church Voted to Chose five Persons a Com^{tee} to Lay y^e Vote of y^e Church Chosing M^r Chandler Robbins For their Pastor before the Precinct for their Concurrence Viz Thomas Foster Coll Watson Tho^s Spoonr Deacon Bartlett & Deacon torry

Then the Question was Put whether it be the mind of this Church in Case the Precinct concur the Church^s Choice of M^r Chandler Robbins for their Pastor that before M^r Robbins Gives his answer he should declare his assent & Consent to the New England Confes-

¹ The first part of this word has been altered.

sion of faith Commonly Received in these Churches, or Exhibit one in writing to the Satisfaction of the Church, it Passed in the affirmative.

Then the Church Voted That Tho^s Foster Doctr LeBaron, Deacon Bartlett Thomas Mayhew & Deacon Torrey be a Com^{tee} to Joyn with a Com^{tee} of the Precinct (provided the Precinct Concur the Churches Choice) to Cause the Votes of the Church & Precinct in some Suitable manner to be Laid before M^r Robbins for his acceptance. Praying that God wo'd Incline his heart to accept the Call and that he may prove a great Blessing to us and ours that at last both he that sows and we that Reap may Rejoice together.

The Votes of the Church were accordingly Laid before the Precinct at a meeting of the first Precinct Called & duly warned for that Purpose and the Precinct Concurred the Churches Choice and Joyned a Com^{tee} to Lay y^e Votes of Church and Precinct before M^r Robbins which was accordingly done, and after some time of Consideration & advice M^r Robbins gave his answer, after Publickly declaring before the Church & Congregation his assent & Consent to the New England Confession¹ of¹ faith agreeable to the Vote afore mentioned and the answer is as follows² [35]

M^r Robbins's Answer to the Call &c³

To the first Church & Congregation in Plymouth

DEARLY BELOVED FRIENDS,

Inasmuch as God has in his wise, overruling Providence dispos^d your Hearts in such a Manner, as that you have given me a Call & an Invitation to settle with you in the Work of y^e Gospel Ministry; It appearing to me an Affair of very great Consequence & Importance, I have not dar^d to rush on hastily in any Conclusions about it. I have therefore, (together with the deliberate Advice of pious & judicious Friends) I trust made serious & earnest Application to the Throne of Grace, to beg Direction of y^e great Fountain of Wisdom, & Head of all divine Influences in the important Matter before me. And reflecting upon the kind & generous Disposition which you have manifested towards me, & seriously considering all the various Steps of divine Providence, relative to my coming among you, & your calling me to settle with

¹ This word, apparently in the hand of Mr. John Cotton, is interlined.

² Here end the entries in the hand of Deacon Thomas Foster.

³ This entry is in the hand of the Rev. Chandler Robbins.

You, I have — (I would speak it with the profoundest Sense of my Unworthiness & Insufficiency for a Work so important & arduous, & wth humble Reliance & hearty Dependance on God for his needed Spirit & Presence thrô the whole of the Work) — concluded to *Accept* of your Call & to *settle* in the Work of the Gospel-Ministry with You. — Now earnestly requesting your joint & fervent Prayers, that God would in great Mercy follow this Conclusion with his Blessing; that the future Relation, which, by the Leave of Providence, we may sustain to Each other may not be in Judgment to either of us. And that God would grant to a very weak Instrument, all that Wisdom, Grace, Knowledge, Prudence & the special Aids & assisting Influences of his holy Spirit, so absolutely necessary for the right & faithful Discharge of so important and momentous a Trust. And that my Labours among you may not be in vain in the Lord; but that we may be mutually serviceable to, & instrumental in building one another up in Holiness & Comfort thrô Faith to Salvation. and that at last, both You & I, he that sowes & they that reap, may of Gods free & rich Grace thrô our Lord Jesus Christ, be admitted to rejoice together in a World of Eternal & glorious Rewards.

I am Yours in the dearest Bonds of Love & Christian Fellowship

CHANDLER ROBBINS

N B. *This Answer was read Dec^r 23^d 1759.*¹

Consequent² upon this Answer, a Church & Precinct Meeting was called.

The Precinct met first, and sent in the following Request to the Church.

At a Precinct Meeting of the first Precinct in the Town of Plym^o on the 31st Day of Dec^r 1759. The Precinct Voted, that the Church be desired to fix the Time of the ordination of the Rev^d M^r Chandler Robbins and sent for an ecclesiastical Council for that Purpose; And that this Vote be laid before the Church by the Moderator.

A true Copy Attest SAM^l BARTLETT Precinct Cler

At a Chh Meeting duely notified to consider what steps were proper to be taken relating to the ordination of M^r Chandler Robbins

¹ The hand of Mr. Robbins here ceases.

² From here to the bottom of p. [38] of the text — or p. 327 of this volume — the entries are in the hand of Mr. John Cotton.

met in the [36] meeting House upon Monday the 31st of December. 1759.

Tho^s Foster Esq^r was chosen Moderator, who opened the meeting with Prayer.

1. The Church unanimously voted to proceed to the Ordination of M^r Robbins upon the last Wednes-Day of January next, agreeable to the foregoing Vote of the Precinct.

2. Then voted to Send to 20. Churches Viz M^r Robbins's in Branford & M^r Sprout's in Guilford in Connecticut, The 4. Churches in Bridgewater, Two in Middleborô, one in Taunton, The Chh in Berkeley, The Chh in Raynham, The Two Churches in Rochester, The first Chh in Plympton, The Chh in Hallifax, The Chh in Abington, The two Churches in Attleborough, The Church in Milton, The Chh in Bristol. To which was afterwards added M^r Wheelock's Chh in Lebanon — Connecticut, which made 21.

3. The three Deacons were appointed a Co^mitee to sign the Letters-Missive to the several Churches.

4. Voted that the Rev^d M^r Nathanael Leonard the Pastor of this Church be sent to and desired to attend the ordination before his Dismission from his pastoral Relation to us.

January 27. 1760. Lords Day PM The Pastor the Rev^d Nathanael Leonard notified the Brethren to attend in the Meeting House the next Wednesday by nine of the Clock A Chh Meeting to consider & do what shall be thought proper respecting the ordination of M^r Robbins and also the Dismission of the Pastor.

January 30. 1760. The Church met according to warning, and after the Rev^d M^r Leonard had prayed, past the following Vote

That M^r John Cotton & the 3. Deacons be a Co^mittee to wait upon the Council now convened in this Place to desire them to proceed to the ordination and also to ask their advice respecting the Rev^d M^r Leonard's Dismission agreeable to a former Vote and also authoriz'd said Co^mittee to sign M^r Leonard's Dismission & Recommendation in the Chh's behalf in case the Council advise to his Dismission.

NATHANAEL LEONARD Pastor

The Deacons having sent out Letters-Missive to 21. Churches pursuant to the vote above, on the 30th of January 1760. 14. Churches

convened (12. of them by their Pastors & Delegates and 2. of them by their Delegates only) Viz The 1st 3^d & 4th of Bridgwater, The first of Rochester, The first of Plimpton, The first of Middleborô, Abington, Hallifax, Bristol, Taunton, Raynham, Berkley, Milton, and Branford in Connecticut Colony. — They having formed into a Council, the Com̄ittee of the Chh waited on them & desired them to proceed to the ordination and also asked their advice respecting the Dismission of their former Pastor.

The Council having advised to the Dismission of the Pastor agreeable to his Request, They then proceeded to the ordination — The Rev^d M^r Wales of Raynham begun the solemnity with Prayer, M^r Robbins ¹[37] of Branford preach'd from John XXI. 15. 16. 17. and then after the Chh had renewed their Call of M^r Robbins to the work of the Gospel ministry among us, M^r Perkins of Bridgwater gave the Charge, and He & Mess^{rs} Leonard, Angier, Parker, Wales & Robbins assisted in laying on of Hands: M^r Angier gave the right Hand of Fellowship. — The Council then assisted in M^r Leonard's Dismission — And the Church voted to dismiss & recomēd him in the Terms following.

Whereas we have for many Years enjoyed the learned, orthodox & godly Ministry of the Rev^d M^r *Nathanael Leonard*, and he thro' bodily Indisposition being incapacitated from further carrying on said Work, and he now desiring a Dismission from his Pastoral Relation to us, and we having the Advice of an ecclesiastical Council now convened in this Place, to grant his Request; we hereby signify our Compliance, and accordingly dismiss him from his Pastorate over us. — At the same Time acknowledging it as a great Favour of Heaven, that we have enjoyed his Labours So long. Viz. For near three & thirty Years: In this Time we have found him a diligent, zealous, faithful Minister of Jesus Christ, and have great Reason to be humbled before GOD for our own Unfruitfulness, and for GOD's correcting Rod in removing him from us. — And we do freely & heartily recommend him to the work of the Ministry, if GOD should restore his Health; and also to the Communion of the Churches, Particularly to the Com̄union of the first Church of Christ in *Norton*. — We desire still an Interest in his Prayers, wishing him & his Family all Blessings, temporal, spiritual & eternal.

¹ Rev. Philemon Robbins, father of the Rev. Chandler Robbins. For the title of Mr. Robbins's sermon, see pp. lxi–lxii, above.

[This was afterwards signed by John Cotton, Thomas Foster & John Torrey in the name & behalf of the Chh, Deacon Bartlett one of the Co[m]mittee chosen for this Service being absent.]¹

The Dismission being compleated, M^r Parker of Plimpton made the concluding Prayer. — And after singing a Psalm sutable to the occasion, The Rev^d M^r Chandler Robbins (our Pastor) gave the Blessing. — Whom, we humbly hope, GOD will make a rich & lasting Blessing to us & ours.

After M^r Leonard's Decease, the following account was given of him in the public Prints. —

June .11. 1761. Dyed the Rev^d M^r *Nathanael Leonard* at Norton in the 62^d year of his Age, and was decently interr'd on Saturday the 13th, His Funeral being attended by a considerable Concourse of People from that & other Towns in Token of Respect & Regard. — He was settled in the work of the ministry in Plymouth July .29.1724. and continued labouring in word & Doctrine among them, till he was taken off from his work by his [38] growing Infirmities — He was Subject from his Youth to an hereditary Ptisick & Head-Ache, which many Times prevented his publick Labours — But these & other Disorders were all at last Swallowed up in a parylitic Distemper, which Seized him as he was preaching on the Sabbath November .9. 1755. — After this he desisted from his work for some months, his Flock providing him an Assistant: But in the Spring of the Year 1756 being Somewhat recruited, he preached again, and followed it constantly till the 22^d of July — But his Infirmities of Body increasing, he was again obliged to desist. — And after he had rested some months, not seeing any Prospect of recovering his Health and so of discharging his work, He tho't it best to ask a Dismission, which his Flock with Regret & Concern consented to — And then removing with his Family to Norton his native Place & where his estate lay, he remaind in a weak & declining Condition (tho' not confined to his House) to the Day of his Death; which happened very suddenly — A repeated Shock ('t is tho't) of his former Distemper carried him out of the world in a moment, after he made some little Complaints of a Pain in his Stomach and a Numbness in one of his Arms. — But we have the utmost Reason to think, that Death was no surprize to him. — He at times Seemed to long for its Approach — and no doubt was habitually ready for the awful summons. — He was a Man of considerable natural Abilities (as well as of acquired Accom-

¹ The square brackets are in the original.

plishments,) of a clear Head, Solid judgment, penetrating Tho't, Excelling in Conference and in giving Council & Advice in difficult Cases. — He had made great Improvements in Philosophy, but especially Divinity — was a clear & sound Gospel Preacher, making Christ his Alpha & Omega in his preaching — He Seemed to be carried above all his natural Infirmities in the late Time of remarkable Awakenings, and was in Labours more abundant; and GOD was pleased to bless him with considerable success. — He was of a mild pleasant affable Disposition, prudent, hospitable, generous & liberal to the Poor — A loving Husband, a tender Parent, a kind & obliging Friend, A faithful Reprover even to those that were dear to him when he apprehended there was occasion for it, And ever courageous & bold in the Cause of his Master & in promoting the Interest of vital Piety. — In Short, He excelled in the graces and Duties of the christian Life: — And now he is no more, we that survive have Reason to arise & call him blessed: — *For blessed are the Dead that dye in the Lord &c.* Rev.XIV.13.¹ [39]²

Votes & Transactions³ of the C^{hh} since my Ordination
to the pastoral Office over it.

CHANDLER ROBBINS

June 12.1763. Lords Day — I read to the C^{hh} in Presence of the Congregation, a Letter missive from the 1st Chh in Woodstock in Connecticut, desiring the Assistance of this Chh by their Pastor & Delegates, at the Ordination of M^r Abiel Leonard to y^e pastoral Charge & Office over them, on the ⁴ 23^d of instant June, y^e Day fix^d upon for his Separation to that Office. After I had communicated the Letter to them, I signify^d to the ⁵ C^{hh} that as I have but just come off from a long Journey to Connecticut, I could not attend myself — however propos^d to them whither they would vote to send Delegates to attend the Council — Voted in the Negative — The Reason of which was (as the C^{hh} declar^d after) because the Pastor could not go.

1764. March 25th I this Day propounded to y^e C^{hh} the Desire

¹ This extract is taken from the Boston News Letter of June 25, 1761, p. 3/1. The entries in the hand of Mr. John Cotton here cease.

² The entries on pp. [39–102] of the text — or pp. 327–429 of this volume — are in the hand of the Rev. Chandler Robbins.

³ The words "Votes" and "Transactions" are underscored.

⁴ Here a word is crossed out.

⁵ Altered from "them."

of Lydia Cornish of Ponds to join in full Communⁿ wth this Ch^h — she being sick & unable to come to the public Worship.

April 1. Lords Day — Read before the Church & Congregation the Relation & Confessⁿ of Lydia Cornish — then stay^d the Church to know their minds with Regard to admitting her to full Communion, out of the ordinary Method, she being confin^d to her House by sickness & tis not probable will ever be able to go abroad again. The Church upon the whole thot it best, as it was a singular Case, to have a Ch^h Meeting on a Week Day on Purpose to consid^r further & determine upon it — Accordingly I notify^d the Brethren to meet on Monday the 9th Day of this Month at 3 o'Clock P.M in the Meeting House. The Chh voted at this Time to accept her Confession & restore her to Charity.

April 9th The Church met accordingly y^e Meeting open^d with Prayer & after long Debate & Consultation as there were but few at the Meeting & they not fully prepar^d to act upon the Affair, It was concluded to refer it to Thursday next viz, The *Fast Day*, & so adjourn^d with^t acting upon y^e Case.

April 12th Thursday. I Stay^d the Church after public Exercise, & desired them to consid^r & determine upon the Case above mentioned — It was urged, that, such a Method of admitting Members to full Communion, in a Private house, that were confined by Sickness, Old Age or other Infirmities, would be going out of y^e Practice this Church as well as others have always been in, & it was apprehended, wou^d be of dangerous Tendency on many Accounts — & therefore, althô they have Charity for the afores^d Person, & are dispos^d to deal in all possible Tenderness wth her, yet they could not think it best to deviate from the standing & ordinary Method of recieving Persons to full Communion, which they must do sho^d they grant the Request. Upon the whole therfore the Chh came to the following Vote — viz Verte [40] Church Votes & Transactions ¹

Voted. — “That the Church are so far satisfyed, that they are willing to recieve the aforementioned^d Person Lydia Cornish to their Communion, in Case God shall in his Providence, restore her so that she is able to come to his House & renew her baptismal Covenant in the Presence of all the People. But that at present, they do not see

¹ The headings to the pages and the dates at the beginning of entries are frequently underscored in the original. They are here printed in roman type.

Light to proceed in the Manner that has been proposed." So y^e Chh¹ was dismiss^d

July. 9th 1764. At a Meeting of the C^{hh} (duly notify^d) at y^e Request of a Number of the Brethren, to confer together on some Matters relative to Singing in public Worship, & also to consid^r the Cases of some of the C^{hh} who withdraw from our Communion without giving the Reasons of it — The Brethren met generally, & after some considerable Conference, came to y^e following Votes.

1. Voted that our Brother John May be desir^d to set the Tune in Concert in order for the better, more regular & Decent Carrying on of that heavenly part of y^e Worship of God, viz Singing in the House of God.

2. Voted that y^e Deacons Foster, Bartlett & Torrey be a Co^mitee of this C^{hh} to go & Enquire of the Persons refer^d to above, into the Reasons of their Withdrawing from our Co^munion, & make Report to the Church. — The Meeting was open^d & concluded with Prayer, singing a Psm & y^e Blessing.

Nov^r — I stay^d the Brethren after public Worship on Lords Day, & read to them a Letter I reciev^d from our Sister Esther Jackson, desiring the Priviledge of Baptism for an Orphan Child of ab^t 2 Years old, under her Care. Some Talk was had upon it, & 'twas thôt best to defer it for further Consideration. After some Time, of a few Weeks, Stay^d & convers^d further upon it; But as it was a New Thing in many Respects, many were not sufficiently satisfy^d to grant her Request, And upon the whole, it was determin^d not to proceed any further in the Affair for the present.

1765. Feb^r 28. After public Lecture stay^d the Brethren, & inform^d them of the Desire of John Cornish, that his Children, by his Wife Lydia Cornish, deceas^d, (whose Case is recorded in the foregoing Page) might be baptiz^d upon her Right, & considering what she had done before her Death, & also w^t the C^{hh} had acted upon it, The Church now

Voted That they think it proper, and are therefore willing that  her Children be admitted to Baptism, on y^e Right of their de^d Mother. [41] 1767 Church Votes & Transactions

Lords Day. April 19. 1767. Read to y^e C^{hh} a Letter Missive from the C^{hh} of Christ in Hallifax desiring the Presence And Assist-

¹ This word, badly blotted, has apparently been altered.

ance of this Chh on the 29th Instant, with their Pastor & Delegate or Delegates, to form, with several other Chh's, into an Ecclesiastical Council for the Ordination of M^r Ephraim Briggs of Norton to y^e pastoral Office over them: Whereon the Chh Voted

1. That they would comply with the Desire of the Chh in Hallifax mentioned in their Letter to this Chh.

2. That our Brethren John Cotton Esq^r & Co^l George Watson attend with the Pastor, as Delegates from this Chh on y^e Occasion aforementioned.

April 29. The Pastor with the aforementioned Delegates attended the Ordination this Day, when, after M^r Briggs had given answer to some Questions propos^d & exhibited a full & satisfactory Confession of his Faith in writing The Council, consisting of seven Chhs proceeded to his Ordination — Rev^d Mes^s *Conant* made the first Prayer, *Porter* preached, *Angier* gave the Charge, *Green* pray^d after y^e Charge & *Shaw* the Right Hand of Fellowship — the whole was conducted with Decency & Order.

May he long continue, with that Chh & People, a faithful & successful Minister!

Nov^r 8th Seth Barnes, a Member of this Chh, tho' now liv^g in Nova Scotia made a public Confession of the Sin of Fornication, & the Chh voted to restore him to Charity & recieve him to their Communion, as Providence may give him Opportunity.

1768. Jan^{ry} 31. Read to y^e Chh & Congregation a Memorial from the Rev^d M^r Silas Brett of Freetown setting forth his needy & distress^d State with Regard to Temporals, praying for Charity &c Whereupon Feb^{ry} 7th viz y^e next Lords Day was collected for him by free Contribution of y^e Chh & Congregatⁿ y^e Sum of £63.10. O Ten^r which was sent him by y^e hand of M^r Elkanah Watson, who bro't back a Receipt of M^r Brett for the above Sum.

July 31. 1768. Read to y^e Chh a Letter missive from y^e 2^d Chh in Rochester (of which y^e Rev^d M^r Ivory Hovey is Pastor) desiring the Presence & Assistance of this Chh by y^r Elder & Delegate or Delegates, at a mutual Council, to meet on Tuesday y^e 23^d of Augst next, to give Advice under their present broken, divided Circumstances, by Reason of some Difficulties & Contentions that have unhappily subsisted for some time among them, & between the Pastor & a Number of y^e Chh & Society — After which y^e Chh Voted

1. That they are willing to comply with their Desire — &

Voted

2. That Deacon Thomas Foster & Deacⁿ John Torrey be the Delegates to ¹ attend the Pastor at y^e s^d Council, as Representatives of the Church. [42] 1768 Transactions of the C^{hh}

Aug^t 23^d This Chh with 3 others viz. y^e 3^d in Bridgwater — 1st in Middleborô & the Chh in Sandwich met in y^e 2^d Parish in Rochester to hear, & consider & advise on y^e aforementioned Difficulties between y^e Rev^d M^r Hovey & his People — and after spending the Week upon it, came to a Result on ye 27th, in which y^e Council advis^d to mutual Forgiveness & Forbearance, & that y^e Complaints exhibited against M^r Hovey are not of so great weight in their Opinion as that y^e Pastoral Relation between him & his pp^l ought to be dissolved, &c Read the Result to this Chh on y^e Sabbath after viz Aug^t 28. — May the Lord be their Healer of Breaches, & restore Peace & Love to y^t unhappy Chh & Pp^l.

1769. Mar.12. Stay^d y^e Chh, being Lords Day, Evening, & acquainted them with y^e renewed Request of our Sister Esther Jackson to have the orphan Child under her Care admitted to Baptism on her Right, as ment^d in Nov^r—1764. And after a little Conference upon it, the Chh unanimously Voted to grant her Request, — & the Child was accordingly baptiz^d y^e next Lords Day. Voted.

1769 Oct^r 15th Stay^d y^e Brethren of y^e Chh after ye Blessing was given, at y^e Desire of our Sister Lydia Samson (once Barns) to lay her Case before them, being many Years ago suspended from Communion for y^e Suppos^d Marrying Jonathan Samson, whose ² first Wife was her Niece — Said a few Things on it, but refer^d y^e full & further Consideration of it to Wednesday after next — viz y^e 25th of this Month — And Accordingly notify^d y^e Chh to meet at this Place on s^d Wednesday at 3 Clock P M.

October 25th This was y^e Day appointed for y^e Chh to meet & consider further the Case of our Sister Lydia Samson alias Barnes, but there were so few of the Brethren who met, that, partly on that Account, but principally because twas judged best for her sake that the Affair should be entirely drop'd, as y^e Consequence might otherwise be greatly to her Prejudice & Hurt, it appearing also that the Members of y^e Chh were, the greater Part of them, by no means

¹ Here "represent" is crossed out.

² This word has been altered.

satisfy^d of y^e Lawfulness of such a Marriage, but of the contrary Opinion, The Affair was accordingly drop^d without so much as the Formallity of a Chh Meeting.

Nov^r 26th *Flora*, a Member of this Chh, sometime since y^e Negro Servant of M^r John Bartlett, now living at Middlborough, having for many Years absented herself from the Communion, being notoriously guilty of scandalous Drunkenness, Profaness, & Disobedience, made a *public Confession* of these Sins, & the Chh thereupon voted to restore her to their Christian Charity & Communion.

Nov^r 30th Stay^d y^e Chh after Lecture, & propos^d to them to choose one or more Persons (since our dear Brother John May is taken from us by death who was our former Chorister) to lead in singing in the [43¹] publick Worship. & after some Conference upon it, the Chh chose four Persons, viz our Brethren *William Crombie*, *Deacon Torrey*, *Amaziah Churchill* & *Robert Bartlett*, to be mutually assisting in that Business as they shall choose & Occasion call for.

1770 Lords Day Janu^{ry} 28. Notify^d the Brethren of the Chh to meet on Thursday next, immediately after the Lecture, to consider & determine the Affair of changing the Version of y^e Psalms sung in publik Worship, as we have had D^r Watts's & Tate & Brady's upon Trial for 3 Years past, once a Day — & many were desirous of coming to a Determination, it being thôt the Church should take y^e Lead in such an Affair.

Feb^{ry} 1st After Lecture the Church accordingly stay^d, but it being an extreme cold Day, it was moved that the Consideration of y^e affair of y^e Version of y^e Psalms should be postponed to a more convenient & comfortable Season. So y^e Matter rested, without ad-journing to any particular Day.

Feb^r 11th Being desired, I notify^d the Brethren of y^e Chh to meet on Tuesday next at y^e Meeting house in order to conclude upon Something relative to y^e Version of y^e Psalms.

Feb^r 13th The Brethren met, in Number 23. (it being a very rainy Day) and after some considerable Discourse upon the Affair — The Question was put seperately to Each Member, whither they were ² for exchanging the *Old Version* for any other — & it appeard

¹ At the top of p. [43] is written "Transactions of y^e Chh."

² Here the words "for introducing Tate & Brady's or y^e Old Version" are crossed out.

that *twelve* of y^e Brethren were for continuing y^e *Old Version* & Eleven for *Tate & Brady*. The Pastor afterwards signify'd his Choice for *Tate & Brady*. So that there being a Tie, the Matter remained yet undetermin'd. It was manifest, in the Course of y^e Conversation, that several of y^e Brethren rather prefer'd *D^r Watts's*, but as this was more particularly obnoxious to some others of y^e Brethren, they were willing to condescend to vote for *Tate & Brady*, that is to be understood, with the *Hymns* annexed to it, as we have use^d it in Time past.

After this, it appearing that a respectable Number of y^e Church were not easy with continuing y^e *Old Version*, It was moved, that altho' that Version be not laid aside, yet that a Vote be called whither *Tate & Brady*, with y^e Hymns, should be sung in publick, wholly, (with y^e Approbation of the Congregation) for Six Months to come, in order that we might be [44¹] be more thoroughly & universally acquainted with it, & the Vote being call'd, it passed in the *Affirmative* unanimously

The Meeting was carry'd on with a very agreeable Unity & a Condescending Spirit — & was both begun & concluded with Prayer — & then y^e Blessing given.

April 8th Read a Letter missive from the 2^d Chh in this Town, desiring the presence and Assistance of this Chh by their Pastor & Delegates to convene with 6 other Chh's on the 18th of this Month, for the Instalment of y^e Rev^d M^r *Ivory Hovey* over the Chh & Congregation in y^e 2^d Precinct in this Town. The Church voted a Compliance with the Request, & chose Deacon Bartlett & Doct^r Le Baron to go as Delegates on the Occasion.

April 18. The Pastor, with y^e Delegates chosen, attended with y^e other several Chhs upon y^e Instalment, & y^e Rev^d M^r Hovey was peaceably install'd over y^e 2^d Chh in this Town — whom we pray God would make a rich & Lasting Blessing to y^m & their Children.

Augst 12th *Lords Day* — The Chh, at the Request of M^{rs} Trenholm (Wife of M^r William Trenholm) a regular Member of the Church of England, who has lived in this Town near a twelvemonth & is a Person of sober Life & Conversation, Voted

That whereas M^{rs} Trenholm was admitted to occasional Com- Voted
munion with this Chh y^e last Lords Day at y^e Sacrament of y^e Lords

¹ At the top of p. [44] is written "1770 Church Records."

Supper, & now desires Baptism for her Infant Child, that her Request be granted, & that she may hereafter be admitted to occasional Communion with us in special Ordinances. — Voted Unanimously.

Memo

This Vote was passed professedly with a View that it may seen by after Generations, that this Chh do not renounce, but are very willing to hold Communion with regular Members of y^e Chh of England.

Lords Day Dec^r 16. At Evening Notify^d y^e Brethren of the Church to meet in the meeting house next Wednesday little after 2 Clock P M, to consider some Matters of Import^{ce} then to be laid before them, relative, in general to *Chh Discipline*; I had been preaching a Number of Sermons on y^e Subject before — from *2 Tim.2.19*. “Let y^m y^t name y^e name of Christ depart &c” — wherein I endeavour^d among sundry other Things more particularly to show that y^e Practice of admitt^g Persons to own y^r baptismal Covenant & so enjoy^g Baptism for y^r Children, without coming into full Communion, which this Church have been [45¹] in for about 40 Years past, (introduced by *M^r Leonard*) is not a Practice warranted by Scripture & therefore ought not, as I apprehend, to be persisted in.

Dec^r 19th The Church met accordingly, but it not being a very full Meeting, & several of y^e Brethren manifesting a Desire to have the several Articles read, which they were to consider of, & then to have some time to think of ’em, before we come to a Determination on them, being Matters of great Import^{ce}, the Pastor readily consented to y^e Motion — & accordingly read y^e several Articles, & then adjourn^d y^e Meet^g, to no particular Day, but y^e Day to be mention^d hereafter in public by y^e Pastor.

The Meeting was began & concluded with Pray^r & a Bless^g.

The Articles propos^d to y^e Chh for their Consideration, were y^e following

1. To consider y^e Cases of two scandalous Members, viz Patience Burgiss & Lydia Phillips — guilty of Fornication, the first being a Widow & yet having a Child of late — the other having a Child also, her Husband being a long time absent, if not dead.

2. To consid^r y^e Cases of several other Members, walking disorderly in absenting y^mselves for a long time from Communion, & some of them reported to be otherways disorderly.

¹ At the top of p. [45] is written “1770 Church Records.”

3. Also y^e Case of Jane Tinkham (who is an occasional Communicant, being a Member of Middle^o Chh — but lives in this Town), whither her Conduct be not such, from universal Report, as to deserve, that she be suspended from occasional Communion.

4. Whither y^e Chh will consider & determine any Thing relating to y^e Children of y^e Chh who have or may fall into Scandal.

5. Whither it be the Opinion of this Chh, that a Person who is the Head of a Family, living in y^e Neglect of Family Prayer, be not guilty of a Censureable Evil.

6. Whither it be the Opinion of this Chh that the half way Practice of owning or entering into Covenant, which has of late years, been adopted by this Chh, be a scriptural Method — or a practice warranted by s^d Word of God, & so to be persisted in.

7. Whither it be not y^e Opinion of this Chh, that Members of Chhs moving into this Town & becoming Inhabitants, & desireing & expect^s Communion with us in special Ordinances, should, as soon as may be, remove their special Relation from y^e Chh they came from, to this, & incorporate with us. & so of y^e Members of this, removing to other Chhs &c

8. Whither the Chh will not come to a Resolution & solemnly agree & covenant with each other, to be hereafter more particularly careful in watching over one another according to ye Rules of y^e Gospel & our own express Covenant Engagements — & this from a Sense of our Shameful & Sinful Neglect hereof in times past.

9. Settle the Version of y^e Psalms to be us^d in publick Worship, which has for sometime past been under Consideration. [46] 1771 Records of Chh Transactions.

Jan^{ry} 6th Lords Day Evening — The Pastor notify^d y^e Brethren to meet in y^e Meetinghouse next Tuesday, to consider further & determine those Things that were laid before them y^e last Chh Meeting, [see y^e preced^s Page.] ¹ to meet at 2 Clock in y^e Afternoon.

Tuesday Jan^y 8. The Church met accordingly — & after Prayer, the Pastor read over y^e several Articles again, y^t are propos^d for their Consideration And they concluded to go upon y^e 9th Article in y^e foregoing Page first. And after some little Conversation, (as it is an Affair that has before sundry times been under our Consideration), came to y^e following Votes.

¹ The square brackets are in the original.

1. Voted that *Tate & Brady's Version of y^e Psalms*, be hereafter sung in y^e public Worship, in y^e Room of y^e Old New England ¹ Version, provided y^e Congregation consent to it.

2. Voted that the *Hymns* also that are annexed to this Version (whereof there are now a hundred & three) chiefly of *D^r Watt's* Collection, be made use of likewise with the Psalms, promiscuously.

3. Voted, with Respect to y^e 1st Article in y^e preceeding Page, That y^e Pastor be desired to discourse with or write to Patience Burgiss & Lydia Phillips & let them know that this Chh expect they forthwith make their Peace with God & the Chh by a humble, penitent Confession of their Sin, or that y^e Chh will, otherwise, proceed to admonish them.

4. Voted that the 3 Deacons, Foster, Bartlett & Torrey, be desired to go & talk with those Members (refer^d to in y^e 2^d Article) who have absented themselves from Communion for some time, or otherwise walked disorderly, & endeav^r to bring them to a Sense both of their Sin & Duty.

5. Voted — respecting Article 3^d, that the Pastor be desired to discourse wth s^d Jane Tinkham, & inform her that her Conduct has been such, on many accounts & her Behavior so contrary to y^e Gospel, that it has caused such Grief & Offence to several of this Chh, as that they cannot comfortably set down with her at y^e holy Ordinance of y^e Lords Supper, & therefore she is desired by y^e Chh to withdraw from attend^g y^t Ordinance untill she gives Christian Satisfaction, or there appears an evident Reformation in her.

As to the 4th Article, concerning the *Children of y^e Church falling into Scandal*, no Vote passed at this Time relative to y^e Matter, tho' it seem^d to be y^e Opinion of y^e Chh that something ought to be done upon it. We all, at y^e same time acknowledge that we have been very criminally negligent & slack in the Matter of Chh Discipline. And yet alas, how strangely backward, (as a Chh) to actual & immediate reformation! The Lord give us all a heart to repent & reform in this Thing particularly, which I believe, is one awful provoking Cause of the mellancholly Withdraw of y^e Spirit & comforting presence of Christ!

As to the 5th Article — no Vote pass^d — but it seem^d clearly y^e Opinion of y^e Chh that a person, i.e. *Head of a Family living in the*

¹ Here "Psalm" is crossed out.

allowed Neglect of Family Prayer, is guilty of a Censureable Evil.
[47] Records of Chh Transactions

As to the 7th Article — The Chh were not agreed as to the Expediency & Duty of immediately insisting upon Members getting proper Dismissions & Recommendations, when they remove from other Churches to this, & from this Church to others. — Thô N.B. There is such a *Vote* upon Record, In *M' Little's Day* — or y^e beginning of *M' Leonards*, which has never been repealed — & no *Vote* passed on y^e Affair at this Time

As to y^e 8th Article — Thô no *Vote* passed, Yet it seem^d to be generally agreed & consented to, that we will for y^e future, be more watchful over one another, & endeavour to be more careful & faithful to God & one another, particularly relating to *Chh Discipline* — & act more agreeable to our solemn Covenant & Engagements.

The 6th Article, being of great Importance, was left for Consideration at another Meeting — began & concluded with Prayer — Adjourned to Tuesday next.

Tuesday, Jan^{ry} 15th. The Chh met, and after Prayer to God, moved the Chh, by reason of y^e Cold, to remove into y^e School house — which being done, we entered upon y^e Consideration of y^e 6th Article in the 45th page,¹ — A long Conference was had upon it — On y^e *one Side* it was urged, that Children born of Visible Believers & baptiz^d in Infancy were properly & truly Members of y^e Visible Chh & therefore might claim the Priviledges of Chh members, when they arriv^d at adult Age, & so by *owning the Cov^t* we are not to understand their *qualifying* themselves hereby for y^e Priviledges of y^e Covenant — they had a right to these before — but that tis needful they should acknowledge w^t their Parents did for them — &c &c

On the *other hand* it was urg^d, That *Baptism & the Lords Supper* are both Seals of *One Covenant*, viz, y^e *Covenant of Grace* — And that consequently they that had a right to one Seal had a right also to y^e other — & y^t we had no right from y^e Word of God to make a Distinction betwⁿ y^e 2 Seals, as if one was more holy than y^e other — that it would be of dangerous Tendency to put asunder what God hath join^d together.

It was also observed, that no Person can with Safety or a good Conscience say what is said in y^e *form* used by them y^t *own y^e Cove-*

¹ P. [45] of the text, or p. 335 of this volume.

nant, while at the same Time he knows himself unconverted, or has at least reason to think that he does not *in his Heart* avouch & choose y^e Lord for his God & Christ for his Savior — That therefore the Continuing of this Practice in y^e Church, must have a manifest Tendency to encourage Persons in solemn Dissimulation with y^e Almighty — which must be a very great Sin. — On y^e *other hand* again it was urged that as by their *Baptism* they were *initiated* into y^e Chh & so became Members, No one had a Right to deny or refuse them y^e Priviledges of Chh Members, & so Baptism for y^r Children. [48] 1771 Records of Chh Transactions

To this it was answer^d That *Baptism* in Infancy does not make Persons *so Members* as to entitle them to y^e Special Ordinances & Priv^a

1. of y^e Covenant of Grace — because 1. Infants are baptiz^d not on their *own* but their *Parents* Right — Therefore before they are admitted to special Priviledges for *themselves*, it is necessary & reasonable that something should appear to y^e Chh *in them*, that should be y^e Ground of their being judg^d qualifyd for y^e Sacraments. & this must be their open Profession of Faith & Repentance — For 2^{dly}

2. In order to enjoy the Priviledges of the Covenant of Grace, there must be a Compliance with the Terms or Conditions of y^e Covenant. but *saving Faith* alone is y^e Condition of y^e Cov^t of Grace — *therefore* there must be a Profession or *Visibility* of this Faith in persons in order to their being admitted to y^e visible Seals & priviledges of the Covenant — For that which is the Condition of *any Covenant*, is the Condition of all the *Priviledges* of y^t Coven^t.

Now if we allow Persons to *own the Coven^t* & have Baptism for their Children who dont so much as look upon themselves regenerate or to have true Faith, we do then either give up y^e Covenant of Grace, as to its requiring saving Grace, & say y^t a Person may *comply with it*, & yet remain in *Unbelief* — Or else, that *Baptism* is not a Seal of y^e Covenant of Grace, Or else that ¹ Persons may lawfully be admitted to y^e *special Priviledges* of *Gods Covenant* while they remain obstinate Enemies to God, to his *Covenant*, to Jesus Christ & Enemies to all Holiness, w^{ch} is y^e true Charact^r of all y^e unregenerate. All which must be absurd, unscriptural & irrational, & even shocking to admit.

¹ Here "a" is crossed out.

These, & many more Arguments were used on both Sides, *for & against* y^e Practice;

On y^e whole, the Pastor express^d his Mind freely that from the most deliberate & serious Consideration, Reading & Prayer, he was fully of y^e Opinion, that the Method was no where warranted by Scripture — that not one Text in y^e whole Bible could be produced to justify it, & therefore that he could not in Conscience persist in y^e Practice of admitt^g Persons to own¹ y^e Covenant & come² to one Ordinance & not y^e other. which, as it has been practic^d here & in other Places of late years, he tho't did appear in many to be little else besides a Formality to get their Children baptiz^d — without any proper Sense of y^e awful Import of Covenanting with God.

And as it was ask^d why the Pastor had gone on till now contentedly in the Practice since his Settlement? He acknowledged y^t it had been for some time a matter of Doubt with him — but y^t of late he has endeavored [49³] more critically & carefully to examine y^e Word of God & other Books on y^e Subject, reading many Tracts wrote on both Sides, the Result of all which was a full Conviction in his own mind that the Customary practice afores^d is not grounded on Scripture Warrant.

On the other hand, tho' there were a Number of y^e Chh of y^e same Opinion with y^e Pastor, Yet the major Part continued to be of y^e Opinion that y^e *Old Practice*, as tis call^d was right — (Which by y^e Way was a Practice never known in this Chh till y^e Days of my immediate Venerable Predcessor; & then not till after many Years Consideration & Trial.)

Thus upon the whole, the Chh came to *no Vote* upon the Affair — but dismiss^d the Matter for y^e present, just in y^e Circumstances above recited. Mention was made, indeed of resuming the Consideration of it again sometime hence — but no Time specified.

Oh that y^e alwise & infinitely merciful Father of Lights, would lead & direct this Chh in y^e Way that is pleasing to him, y^e way of Truth, peace & holiness, for his dear Son's Sake!

Thus this Affair remains at this Time.

After this at y^e same Meeting, the Chh — proceeded & Voted —

¹ Altered from "owning."

² Altered from "comeing."

³ At the top of p. [49] is written "1770 & 1771 Chh Records."

That our Brethren Nath¹ Morton & Silas Morton be cited to appear at our next Chh Meeting to answer to some things alledged agst them.

The Meeting was concluded with Prayer & y^e Blessing.

See Page 71.¹ for y^e Reason of this Erasurement.²

[50] 1771 & 1772. Chh Records

1772 Jan^y 5th Lords Day Evening Read to y^e Church & Congregation a *Letter Missive* from the 2^d Church of Christ in Rochester, to this Church, desireing their Presence & Assistance at y^e proposed Ordination of *M^r Lemuel Le Baron* to y^e pastoral Office over them on y^e 29th Instant — Whereupon the Church Voted 1

Vote 1. That they were willing to grant y^e Request in s^d Letter Missive,

2. That our Brethren *Doct^r Lazarus L. Baron & Theophilus Cotton* should be Delegates from this Chh to accompany the Pastor on that Occasion, God willing.

Jan^y 29th The pastor & aforemention^d Delegates attended at the s^d Ordination this Day, in Council with 10 other Chhs, with their pastors. The Solemnity was began with prayer by y^e Rev^d M^r *Roland Thacher*, of Warham — Then the *Pastor of this Chh* preached from *2 Tim. 2.4.* “That he may please him who hath chosen him to be a Soldier”³ — The Rev^d M^r *Hovey* of this Town pray^d before y^e Charge — Rev^d M^r *Bacon* of ye 3^d Chh in this town gave y^e Charge — Rev^d M^r *West* of Rochester gave y^e Right hand of fellowship, & Rev^d M^r *Robbins* of Norfolk in Connecticut made y^e concluding Prayer. The whole attended with great Decency & Solemnity. May God make y^e ordained, a rich & lasting Bless^g to them & theirs, & a pastor accord^g to his own heart!

Febr^y 16th Lords Day Evening, Notify^d the Brethren of y^e Chh, (at y^e special Desire of the 2 Deacons F & T.) to meet in the Meeting-house on Tuesday next at 2 Clock in the Afternoon, in order to consider some Matters of Importance, more particularly relating to the

¹ P. [71] of the text, or p. 365 of this volume.

² This line was inserted at a later date. Following the line is a record of the transactions at a meeting held November 28, 1771, containing fourteen lines on p. [49] and ten lines on p. [50], all of which is crossed out. Cf. p. 365, below.

³ For the title of the sermon, see p. lvi, above.

Subject of Baptism, which Affair was under Consideration last Winter — See Page 47¹ [51] 1772 Church Records.

Febr^y 17. Agreeable to a Vote of y^e Church, in Page 49.² I this Day sent a Citation to our Brethren *Nath^u & Silas Morton* to appear at y^e Chh Meeting to be held on y^e Morrow in the Meeting-house.

Febr^y 18th The Church met according to y^e Notification, when, after Prayer to God for his presence & Direction in y^e important affair before us, there was a free Conference held relating to the *Subject of Baptism, owning y^e Covenant &c* as in *Jan^y 1771*. Great Numbers of the Congregation & others were present. Finally y^e Church (who were mostly present, ie, y^e males) came to no Conclusion, it appearing that some were *for*, others against y^e practice as before — So the Meeting was adjourned by Desire to y^e last *Tuesday* in March next, at 2 Clock P M which will be y^e 31st Day. — The Meeting was Concluded with Prayer & y^e Blessing.

March 31st Tuesday PM — The Chh met according to Adjournment — and after prayer, enter^d upon y^e Consideration of the Affair relative to y^e *owning Covenant &c* several Things were read 2 Tracts drawn up by our Brother John Cotton³ & one by the Pastor, on different Sides the Question in debate. & unhappily, there was more warmth in the debate at this than at y^e former meeting — but nothing finally settled. — it lasted till in y^e Evening — when some were for dissolving y^e Meeting, others for adjourning — finally, there was just a majority for adjourning — most of y^e members were withdrawn by reason of Night & Cold — Accordingly the meeting was adjourned to y^e last Tuesday in June next. The Meeting was then concluded with Prayer & y^e Blessing.

Oh y^t God of his infinite Mercy would compassionate this Chh under its present divided State, & graciously lead & direct to such Measures & Conclusions as shall be most for his Glory & y^e real Interest & Welfare of this dear Chh & People — for Jesus Christs Sake, *Amen*.

Lords day April 19th Read a Letter missive from y^e Committee

¹ P. [47] of the text, or p. 338 of this volume.

² P. [49] of the text, or p. 340 of this volume.

³ As early as 1764 (see the case of Lydia Cornish, p. 328, above), a difference of opinion in regard to baptism arose between Mr. Robbins and Mr. Cotton, and later developed into an acrimonious dispute. For the titles of the four pamphlets that were published, see pp. lvi–lvii and notes, above.

of y^e Church of Christ in *New Yarmouth* or *Toboge* in Nova Scotia, desireing y^e Presence & Assistance of this Chh by their Pastor & Delegate, at y^e proposed Ordination of *M^r Jonathan Scott* to y^e Pastoral Office over that Chh & people on Tuesday y^e 28th ins^t at Middlborô first Precinct — The Chh voted to send & Chose Co^l Watson Delegate &c. [52] 1772 Church Records

April 28th Tuesday — The Ordination Council of 6 Churches having met at Middleboro first Precinct, last Evening, they Embodied, & having read & heard from the Committees of y^e Chh & Precinct of Yarmouth in Nova Scotia, Matters relative to their calling *M^r Jonathan Scott* to the Work of y^e Ministry & Pastoral Office among them, & *M^r Scott* exhibiting a Confession of his Faith to the great Satisfaction of all y^e Council, & being examin^d as to his Qualifications for the Ministry, the Council Voted they were ready & willing to assist in setting him apart by Ordination to that office & work. Accordingly *this Day* he was solemnly, in y^e Presence of a numerous & serious assembly of People of this & neighboring towns ordained to the pastoral Charge of y^e Chh & people in *Yarmouth Nova Scotia*. The Rev^d M^r Reed began with Prayer. Rev^d M^r Porter preached from *Acts 17.2.3.4.* — Rev^d M^r Shaw pray^d & gave the Charge — The *Pastor of this Church*, prayed after the Charge, & Rev^d M^r Conant the Right hand of fellowship. May God make him a rich & lasting Blessing to that Chh & people!

June 30th Tuesday — PM. The Chh met according to an Adjournment, on the affair of y^e Subjects of Baptism. After Prayer, a Paper was handed to the Pastor, to be read to y^e Church — but before it was ¹ read, Deacon Foster rose & spoke for a considerable time, the purport of which was, that every one should have free & full liberty to speak further on the affair &c &c After which the afores^d Paper was read, which, as it was afterwards *voted*, y^e whole of it, I shall here record — 'Twas as follows. — Viz —

We the Subscribers Brethren of the first Chh of Christ in Plimouth, taking into our serious Consideration, the unhappy Difficulties, subsisting in said Church, relative to the Subjects of Baptism, and being of opinion, that the most effectual Method to restore Peace & Harmony to said Church, would be to drop the affair for the Present, We would therefore, hereby signify our earnest Desire, that the Chh Meeting,

¹ Written above a word crossed out.

which stands adjourned to Tuesday the 30th Instant June, be dissolved without entering into any further Debate on the Affair; The Church to reassume the further Consideration thereof, when they shall think it proper or necessary.¹ May the great Head of the Church lead and guide us in this, & all our other [53²] Affairs, so as shall tend most for his Glory and our good, and at last bring us all to that blessed State, where Love Peace and Unity reign in Perfection.

Signed

LAZARUS LEBARON	BENJAMIN CHURCHILL	ELEAZAR CHURCHILL
JOSHUA SWIFT	WILLIAM CROMBIE	JOHN HARLOW
EBENEZ ^R BARTLETT	WILLIAM SERGEANT	THOMAS MAYHEW
EBENEZER COBB Jun ^r	BENJ ^A KING	JONATHAN CHURCHILL
THOMAS SPOONER	JOHN KING	THOMAS FAUNCE
ROBERT BARTLETT	NATHANIEL DONHAM	ICHABOD MORTON
TIMOTHY BURBANK	JOSEPH BARTLETT	JOHN KEMPTON
	LEMUEL BARTLETT	

When the above Paper was read, with the Names of the Brethren who signed it, (which were by far the greater Part of the Male Members then in Town) a Motion was made & seconded, that it might be put to vote — But ³ opposition was made to it by 2 or 3 of the Brethren — M^r John Cotton having drawn up something, which he intended to communicate at this Meeting — It was insisted by them that he should have Liberty to read it — &c &c On the other hand, the Brethren reply^d that he & others had had opportunities again & again, at former Meetings to speak & read abundantly, & they thôt sufficiently on the Subject — & they apprehended the Chh in general were weary of Dispute & Controversy about it, & thôt the Continuance of these Meetings & further Debates, only tended to encrease Animosities & Difficulties among us, & would in the Issue be dishonouring to God, & Religion, & hurtful to our Souls best Interest &c & therefore urged that the Vote be put.

After considerable Debate, (attended with too much warmth, for which we have cause to be humbled before God) the following Question was put, by Desire — viz — Whither the Chh incline to hear any thing further at this time, on y^e affair under consideration, re- Questⁿ

¹ Here two lines are crossed out.

² At the top of p. [53] is written "1772 Chh Records."

³ Here two or three words are crossed out.

Voted

specting the Subjects of Baptism, agreeable to the Desire of *three* of the Brethren? — It pass^d in the *Negative*. (turn over [54] 1772 Church Records

The Brethren afores^d being very uneasy at the Determination of the Chh, & saying many Things upon it, of the Unreasonableness of not being allowed to say all they had to offer upon such an important Affair, &c &c It was answered, by the Brethren on the other hand, that it would only open a Door for a Reply to it — & that for another Reply — & so would be endless, & only tend to keep the Chh & Town involv^d in miserable Dissention & Division.

It was then observed by one of the Brethren, that he *doubted* in his mind, whither there was a majority of hands held up in the foregoing Vote — & moved that the Vote might be call^d again, & that the Brethren might divide into two Bodies, to determine with more Exactness, upon y^e Question.

Vote 2^d

Accordingly the Question was put a 2^d Time, & a Division was made agreeably to their Desire — & it pass^d again in y^e *Negative*.

The Brethren on the other Side being still vehemently engag^d against¹ the Vote, & insisting on M^r Cotton's Piece being read, as they said it contain^d somthing new, & that after he had read it, then they would be willing the Chh sho^d pass the above Vote, if they saw fit, — The Chh, for peace Sake & in Condescention to y^e importunity of the former 3 Brethren

Voted 3

Voted to *Reconsider* the former Vote, & gave Liberty that it should be read. — Accordingly M^r Cotton read a long Piece on the Subject aforesaid — The former Part of which attempted to prove that Infants baptized in Infancy, did retain their Membership, & not cease to be Members, when they grew up — contrary, as he said, to the Opinion of y^e Pastor; Tho' the Truth is, he misapprehended the Pastor egregiously — The Pastor never deny^d nor thôt of denying they were Members in *any* Sense, when grown up — but deny^d & still denies that that they are Members in the full & compleat Sense in which M^r Cotton asserts their Membership.

The latter Part of the Piece contain^d, — as the Pastor thôt, many hard & injurious Reflections upon him — & was utter^d with much Warmth & Agitation of Spirit. But in such a Day of Difficulty & Temptation, all possible, christian Allowances are to be

¹ The first letter in this word has been altered.

made for human¹ Frailties & Imperfections, which are & will be found in those y^t are y^e real Children of God.

After he had finished reading, which lasted above an hour, near 2 The Question was desired to be put again, whither the Desire of y^e Brethren ment^d in y^e afores^d Paper sh^d be granted & y^e Meet^g dissolv^d. It pass^d by a very great Majority & y^e Meet^g was accord^gly Vote 4
Dissolved. [55²] After which it was concluded with Prayer & y^e Blessing. — May God of his infinite Mercy, behold & visit this Vine — & grant us his holy Spirit, to sanctify our Hearts, mortify our³ Corruptions subdue every thing in us that is contrary to y^e Gospel, & give us Hearts to love y^e Lord Jesus Christ in Sincerity, & to love one another with pure heart's fervently — for his great Name's Sake Amen.

1775. Feb^r 5th Read a Letter missive from the first Chh in Plimpton desiring the Assistance of this Chh by their Pastor & Delegates at y^e Ordination of M^r Ezra Samson to y^e colleague pastoral office over them on y^e 15th instant. The Chh voted to comply with y^e Request, & chose Deacon Bartlett Deacon Torrey & M^r Mayhew to represent the Chh on y^e occasion.

Feb^r 15th Met accordingly at Plimpton with a Council of Pastors & Delegates of several Churches, & after usual Enquiries into y^e Proceedings of y^e Chh relative to M^r Samsons Call &c & after hearing a full Confession of y^e s^d Candidates Faith, & his Answers to several Questions thereon, The Council manifesting their full Approbation thereof, proceeded solemnly to ordain him — as follows, The Pastor of *this Chh* open^d the Solemnity with Prayer, Rev^d M^r Conant preached the Sermon, Rev^d M^r Shaw of Bridgewater gave y^e Charge, Rev^d M^r Turner of Middleboro' pray^d after y^e Charge, & Rev^d M^r Howland of Plimpton gave y^e righthand of Fellowship — y^e whole conducted with Seriousness & Decency. May God make their Pastor a rich & lasting Blessing to them & theirs, as well as a great Comfort to the Rev^d M^r Parker his aged & worthy Colleague.

1775. March 12th Lords Day Even^g — Stay^d the Chh (upon having recieved a request sign^d by Six of the Brethren, that a Chh Meeting might be call^d to consider some matters of Grievance Rela-

¹ Altered from "humam" or "humane."

² At the top of p. [55] is written "1775 Church Records."

³ Written over "of" erased.

tive¹ to Deacon Foster) to advise with them about y^e Matter contain^d in s^d Paper of Request. — The Chh thôt it would be proper to defer calling a Chh Meeting in order that y^e private Steps, be first taken for a Reconciliation, according to y^e Rule of y^e Gospel — & advised that said agrieved proceed accordingly.

March 26th ² Lords day — Having recieved a 2^d Request, sign^d by five Brethren that a Chh Meeting might be call^d to consider as above, they also having in their request mention^d severall articles of their Grievance relative to Dⁿ Foster, & also intimating that the previous first & second Steps had been taken, & to no satisfactory purpose, I notify^d thè Chh to meet to consider on said affair, next *Tuesday* at y^e meeting h^a.

March 28th Tuesday P M. The Church met accordingly, & after Prayer, The Design of y^e Meeting being mention^d, Deacon Foster read a paper containing his objections & Reasons against the [56³] the Church's going on to a hearing of the articles exhibited against him by the aggrieved Brethren — & requesting that the meeting be dissolved. — The Church voted Not to dissolve the meeting — & then, upon Deacon Foster's Request, agreed to adjourn the Meeting to the first Wednesday in May next. the meeting was accordingly adjourned to the 3^d of next May.

1775 May 3^d The Church met according to adjournment, but there being but few of the ⁴ members present, Deacon Foster also being absent, the Meeting was further adjourn^d to the 2^d Wednesday in June next.

June 14th The Church met agreeable to adjournment, Deacon Foster sent in a paper to be read, signifying the reasons why he did not attend this Meeting, & objecting against the Chh's proceeding on the affair, & again desired the Meeting may be dissolved — One of his Reasons being *this*, that he thought the previous Gospel Steps had not been taken, Twas moved by y^e Chh that an Account might be given what Steps the offeneded Brethren had taken, that the Church might judge thereon — Which being done, A Vote was desired to be call^d to know Whither the aggrieved had taken the Steps required by Christ

¹ The first letter in this word has been altered.

² The date is uncertain, as the second figure has been altered.

³ At the top of p. [56] is written "1775 Church Records."

⁴ This word had been altered.

Voted unanimously that the proper Steps had been taken.

Voted — Therefore 2^{dly} that this Meeting be not dissolved.

Whereupon the Church thôt it, nevertheless, adviseable to use all Christian Tenderness & Forbearance with our Brother Deacon Foster, and, inasmuch as he was not present,) to adjourn this Meeting for a Week, & notify him what the Church had done. Accordingly adjourned to *Wednesday next*.

At the Desire of Deacon Bartlett & Deacon Torrey it was proposed to the Chh, to take into Consideration the choosing of another Deacon, especially on account of the growing Infirmities of our aged & worthy Dⁿ Bartlett, — which oblige him necessarily to be absent from public Worship great part of the Time, especially in y^e cold Season.

The Meeting was opened & concluded with Prayer.

June 21st The Church met by Adjournment. Deacon Foster appearing & desireing the articles of Grievance against him might be more particularly specify^d & he have opportunity to make his Defence, produce Evidences &c the Meeting was by Consent of y^e Chh adjourned to the 3^d Wednesday in August next. — Open^d & concluded with prayer — & Blessing [57] 1775 Church Records

Aug^t 16th The Church met according to Adjournment — Deacon Foster brôt an Evidence (viz his Wife) in order to prove the previous Steps in a more private way, as mention^d in the Gospel, had not been taken with him. The Chh heard y^e Evidence — & the Question was put Whither the Steps had been taken — 22 Members present of whom 11 Voted in y^e affirmative — which being but just half, the former Vote of y^e Church on this Question stands in force, viz that past *June 14th* in y^e foregoing page. — Next, it was moved & seconded that the Charges be read — which were accordingly read, both y^e General Heads, & the particulars explanatory of them, which latter had been sent to Deacon Foster previous to this meeting, agreeable to y^e vote June 21

Hereupon Deacon Foster begun to answer to s^d Charges, but had considered only those under y^e first general Head before Evening came on which made it necessary to adjourn — accordingly, by Desire, y^e Meeting was adjourned a fortnight from this Day — viz to *Aug^t 30th instant*. — The Church were of opinion that, of those Charges he answerd to, at this time, some of 'em were of such a

Nature, that y^e Chh could not settle or determine absolutely upon them — & that the others, then spoke to, were not such as amounted to consurable Evils — or a just Ground of Withdraw.

The Meeting was open^d with prayer, & concluded also, & wth a Blessing.

Aug^t 30. The Church met according to adjournment, but it being a very stormy Day, few met, & voted therefore to adjourn a fortnight, viz to Sep^r 13th Wednesday 2 Clock P M. — Pray^d together, & parted.

Sep^r 13th Met according to adjournment, &¹ the Pastor, being confined by sickness, the church made Choice of Deacon Torrey moderator for the present meeting, & by reason of a few members being present, voted to adjourn the meeting to Wednesday y^e 27th of September instant.

attest JOHN TORREY moderator

Sep^r 27th Met according to adjournment, the pastor being yet detain^d by bodily indisposition, & few Members present voted to adjourn the meeting again for a fortnight viz to October 11th ensuing.

attest JOHN TORREY. Mod^r

Oct^r 11th Met accordingly — & there being but few Members present voted to adjourn to meet again in 4 Weeks, viz Nov^r 8th

Att: C. ROBBINS.

[58] 1775 Chh. Records

Nov^r 8th The Church met agreeable to y^e Adjournment but there being yet very few members present, & it being a stormy, uncomfortable day, voted to adjourn y^e Meeting a fortnight — viz to y^e 22^d instant.

Lords day Nov^r 19th Stay^d the Church, & proposed to their Considerⁿ whither, (since the public Thanksgiving was to be the present week on Thursday, & also that I must necessarily be absent the whole week, being engag^d to act as Chaplain in the Army at Roxbury for a week) it would be expedient or necessary that the Chh sh^d meet according to the Adjournment next Wednesday — The Church were unanimously of opinion, that it would not be necessary nor ex-

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

pedient, & therefore agreed that the Chh meeting which was to have been on Wednesday next, be further adjourn^d three Weeks from s^d Wednesday — viz to 13th of Dec^r next.

Lords Day Dec^r 10th Stay^d y^e Church & after some Consultation about the Chh Meeting which is adjourn^d to next Wednesday, The Church agreed, (considering it is Court Week this week, a public Time, & Deacon Foster uneasy at the Meeting being at such a Time) to postpone the Meeting till next Wednesday Week, viz y^e 20th Dec^r

Dec^r 20th The Church met, but several of the Members & particularly the Accusers being absent, out of town &c The Church concluded to adjourn, at Dⁿ Foster's Desire, a Month — to meet y^e 17th of Jan^y next — pray^d & dismiss^d

1776 Jan^y 17th Met agreeable to Adjournment, but there¹ still being so few of y^e Brethren present, by Dⁿ Foster's Desire the Meeting was further adjourn^d to the first Wednesday in March next, at 10 Clock in y^e Forenoon, Of which public Notice is to be given to y^e Church on the Sabbath preceeding y^e s^d 6th of March, & that tis y^e Design of y^e Church then, by y^e Leave of Providence, without fail to proceed to y^e Consideration of the Articles alledg^d against our Brother Deacon Foster. — As it may well seem surprizing to many, in after times, to see an Account of so many Adjournments one after another for such a long space of Time, on acc^t of y^e Brethren not attending y^e Meetings — I think it proper to say, That I know not what else to attribute it to, but to y^e public Distresses of this Land, involved in y^e Calamities of Civil War, [59²] which so much engrosses the Minds & Concern of every one that they scarce know how to attend, even upon an affair of such³ Importance as this is, However we must acknowledge, we are guilty of a sad & criminal Neglect — as no public or private Troubles ought ever to prevent attending on those Duties, in which y^e Honor of Christ, of this Church, & y^e good of the Delinquent, are so much concerned. The Lord heal & save our Land, & give peace & prosperity to this Chh!

Wednesday Mar. 6th The Chh met according to Adjournment, & would have proceeded to y^e Business of y^e Meeting, but the minds

¹ Altered from "their."

² At the top of p. [59] is written "Chh Records."

³ Here a word is crossed out.

of the Brethren & every one being so exceedingly agitated & concerned on Acc^t of News that our Army are now actually engaged in Battle with y^e Enemy at Dorchester, Cambr^s &c agreed to adjourn still further, (at D^a Foster's Desire) to y^e first Wednesday in May next. — Concluded with Prayer.

Wedn. May 1st 1776. The Chh met by Adjournment, & after Prayer proceeded to y^e Business before them, relative to y^e Charges brōt against D^a Foster. which were contain^d under these 4 General heads — viz

1. His Falseness & Prevarication, affirming at one time w^t at other times he will deny, with Affirmations and Asseverations.

2. His frequent violent Passions & Extravagant Expressions, & wicked Wishes, bordering upon Profaness, if not actual breaches of y^e 3^d Com^{and}.

3. When desired by our Pastor, at our Request, not to attend upon y^e next Sacrament, & to abstain untill y^e Objections against him should be settled in a Christian manner to our Satisfaction, He, notwithstanding would attend, & thereby obliged a Number of us to absent ourselves, as we could not with peace of mind join with him any longer therein.

4. His Political Conduct & Practices are, we think, just matter of Offence, as therein he discovers a Willingness to have this Country enslaved — & is frequently found to be an Advocate for ye Destructive Doctrines of Passive Obedience & Non Resistance.

Signed by 5 of the Brethren

Six Particular Charges under the first General Head were considered & acted upon at y^e Meeting in Aug^t 16. 1775. — See Page 57.¹

Now proceeded to y^e 2^d Gen^l Head & y^e particulars under it — The five first of which, being not supported by Sufficient Evidence, the Chh dismiss^d them. — The 6th particular — “his calling John Churchills Wife a cursed, murderous Bitch — The Church, 1. Voted it proved. Upon which Deacon Foster, saying that thō he had no Remembrance of it, yet that if he did say it, he was sorry for it, & condem^d y^e Expression The Chh Voted satisfied. [60] 1776 Church Records

The seventh particular under this head, viz “his frequently giv-

¹ P. [57] of the text, or p. 347 of this volume.

Vote

Vote

ing people y^e Lye — treating them with Roughness & in an unchristⁿ manner,” was thus dismiss^d — viz — That altho several of them had met with what they thôt rough & unkind usage &c yet they could forgive him & had no objection against him at present on that head.

As to y^e 8th — viz “ his saying that when D^r Watts composed his Hymns, he was under the Influence of y^e Devil. The Chh voted ^{Vote} That it was sufficiently proved that he said so, with respect to his *Psalms*, tho not Hymns — & that tis justly offensive. — Upon which Deacon Foster saying he was sorry he used such an Expression, if he did say it — the Church Voted To forgive him.

Then proceeded to y^e 3^d gen^l head — Upon which y^e Chh voted it not a censureable Evil.

Then went on to y^e 4th & Last gen^l Head — as in y^e last page.¹ Upon which The Brethren manifested such Uneasiness, as his Principles were so very opposite to almost y^e whole Chh, & had a Tendency, in their opinion, utterly to sap y^e Foundation of our Churches, as well as our State — that finally The Church Voted not to determine at present, in a decisive manner, upon this Article — but to adjourn for further Deliberation. — Accordingly the Meeting was adjourned to ye 2^d *Wednesday in July next*, 3 Clock P M.

The Meeting concluded with Prayer & y^e Blessing.

July 7th Lords Day. Stay^d the Church, at D^a Fosters Desire, to let them know, that, as he thought the Chh meeting by Adjournment was to have been last week, he was under Necessity by an engagement, to go out of town this week, & cou^d not attend y^e Meeting, & desired the Chh would adjourn the meeting to the Wednesday after next — Which the Chh consented to — & accordingly the Church is to meet on Wednesday y^e 17th instant, at 3 of Clock in y^e Afternoon.

Wednesday. July 17th The Church met according to adjournment, & proceeded to y^e consideration of the last general Article of Charge against D^a Foster — It being urged, that he looked upon the Brethren, who were opposite to him in political Sentiments, to be Rebels, & of Consequence deserving y^e Punishment of such; & he not denying or retracting his former Sentim^{ts} & declaring that he did not think it expedient to tell w^t his Thôts were on y^t head, — &

¹ P. [59] of the text, or p. 350 of this volume.

not being willing to make any recantation, The Church Voted almost unanimously (20 Members present, all but 2 Voted) that they could not contentedly communicate with him at y^e Lords Table. [61] 1776 Church Records

Whereupon Deacon Foster desireing further time to think upon the affair, & that there might be an Opportunity for a fuller Meeting, the Church readily consented that the meeting be adjourn^d for further time for mutual Deliberation, without proceeding to any formal Suspension of him from Communion. Accordingly y^e meeting was adjourn^d by Agreement, to the 2^d Wednesday in October next y^e 9th day. to meet in y^e Meeting house at 2 Clock P M. The meeting was opened with Prayer, & concluded wth prayer & y^e Blessing.

N. B. The Pastor being necessarily absent, on a Journey, upon y^e said 9th of October, (to which time y^e Church Meeting was adjourn^d) the Church did not meet on said Day. Thus the Affair remains to be concluded if Providence permit, at some future Meeting, to be appointed or warn^d anew.

 Dec^r 17th This Day died, greatly lamented, *Deacon John Torrey*, of the Smallpox Aged 59 Years. A man of Goodness, singular Integrity & Uprightness — an Ornament to the Church, a great Blessing to y^e Town, & a most able, zealous Friend to the Liberties of this distress^d & bleeding Country. May God sanctify such a sore Bereavement to this people, & especially to this Church!

1777. Jan^{ry} 5th Lords Day Evening, Notify^d the Brethren of y^e Chh to meet on Wednesday next, to consider of y^e Expediency of choosing one or more persons to the office of Deacons in this Church, — To meet in the Meeting house at 2 Clock P M.

Jan^r 8th Wednesday. The Church met according to Notification — And after Prayer — The Question was put whither the Chh will now proceed to the Choice of one or more Deacons — Whereupon

1. Voted unanimously to proceed.
2. Voted, (that by reason of y^e Death of our dear Brother Deacon Torrey, & y^e Age & Infirmities of our worthy Brother Dⁿ Bartlett) to choose two Deacons.

The Brethren were then desired to bring in their written Votes — When our Brethren *Silvanus Bartlett* & *William Crombie* were chosen by a great Majority — whereupon, the Chh made y^e Choice unanimous, by a following Vote. — The Brethren chosen, requested some

time to consider of y^e Affair. The Meeting conducted wth entire Love & harmony, & conclud^d wth Pray^r

Lord's Day Jan^{ry} 19th At Noon, inform^d the Congregation of the Choice the Chh had made of y^e above persons to y^e Office of Deacons, & that our Brother Silv^s Bartlett desired to be excused from s^d Office, purely & only on Acc^t of bodily Infirmary & Loss of Voice, in a gr^t Measure. Our Brother *William Crombie* consenting, was then publickly desired that he would, in Token of his Acceptance, take his Place in y^e Deacon's Seat in the Afternoon, which he did. The Chh was notify^d to meet again on *Tuesday next*, in y^e meetinghouse for the Choice of another Deacon. [62 ¹] 1777 Church Records

Jan^r 21st Tuesday.² The Church met according to Notification & the question being put whither the Chh would at this time proceed, to y^e choice of a Deacon, Voted in ye Affirmative. Then the Brethren ^{Vote} brôt in their written Votes, & our Brother *Lemuel Bartlett* was chosen by a majority of Votes. He thôt it his duty to excuse himself, on account of his Years, &c but was desired to take the matter under Consideration for a while, which he yielded to. — Then the Church voted, that as *Deacon Crombie*, our former Chorister, had left y^e usual Singer's Seat, on account of his being Chosen a Deacon, that our brother *Jesse Churchill*, & Mess^{rs} *Andrew Crosswell*, *Sam^l Sherman* & *William Bartlett* y^e 3^d be desired to act as Choristers in y^e publick worship, as occasion shall require.

The Meeting was adjourned to next Wednesday fortnight, viz the 5th of February ensuing, to meet in y^e meet^ghouse, at 2 Clock P M. The Meeting was opened & concluded wth Prayer, & the Blessing.

Jan^r 23^d This day, died *Deacon Thomas Foster*, of the *Small Pox* aged 7³ & was bury^d by the Hospital, near to Deacon Torrey. A surprizing Providence,! two Deacons of this Church have dy^d within a Month, of this terrible Disease. The first, viz Dⁿ Torrey, was inoculated, but twas thôt he had previously taken it, y^e natural way. The other caught it, but had no knowledge how or when.

May this Church be enabled wisely to improve such a mysterious Dispensation.

¹ This page is not numbered in the original.

² Written over "Wednesday."

³ Mr. Robbins wrote "7," no doubt intending to insert a second figure when he ascertained Mr. Foster's age.

Feb^r 5th Wednesday. The Church met according to Adjournment for the Purpose of choosing another Deacon, our Brother Lemuel Bartlett having previously declined accepting y^e Choice, on Account of his Age & frequent Infirmities, especially a Deafness which he is often affected with. The Church therefore, after y^e meeting was opened by Prayer,

Vote Voted ¹ To proceed at this Time to y^e Choice of another Deacon. — And upon bringing in their Votes, it appeared they were much divided — & after a 2^d & 3^d Trial, no one being chosen, it was moved that y^e Meeting be adjourn^d some time, for further Consideration, in hopes, by Conferring together, y^e Brethren may be more united at y^e next meeting. Accordingly The meeting was, by Vote, adjourn^d 3 Weeks — to meet again in the meet^g house on Wednesday y^e 26th instant, at 2 Clock P M [63] 1777 &c Church Records

Vote At the same Meeting the Church chose *Deacon Crombie* for their Treasurer, & desired him, by Vote, to recieve the Church Vessels Account book &c &c and to provide for the Sacrament in future.

The Meeting was then concluded with Prayer & y^e Blessing. May y^e good Spirit of God give Wisdom & Unity to this Church to direct & govern them in y^e important affair now under their Consideration, & in his merciful Providence lead us to the Choice of such a person for y^e Office of a Deacon, as shall be an Ornament to the Church, & act in that Capacity to y^e Glory of God & y^e Edification of this Church!

Feb^r 23^d Lord's day. Stay^d the Chh after Meeting, when it was unanimously agreed that the Chh Meeting, which was to have been next Wednesday, should be adjourned without Day, on account of the difficulty of coming to any Choice of a Deacon, at present. And it was accordingly adjourn^d without Day.²

Vote 1780 Feb^r 6th Lords Day. Stay^d y^e Chh at Night, & informed them that Complaint had been made to me of several Members of this Chh walking very disorderly in absenting themselves habitually from publick Worship, as well as from y^e Ordinance of y^e holy Supper — which has given great Occasion of Reproach & brôt a Scandal on y^e Chh — Whereupon y^e Church voted that Br^o *Thomas Mayhew*

¹ Here the figure "1" is crossed out.

² No meetings were recorded between June 30, 1772, and February 5, 1775, nor between February 23, 1777, and February 6, 1780: cf. pp. 342-345, above.

& *Deacon Cromby*, with the *Pastor* be a Co^mittee of y^e Chh to go & discourse with those Members who walk not according to gospel Rule, & endeavor to bring them to a Sense of y^r Sin¹ & Duty — & make Report to y^e Church.

March. 30th Being Lecture Day, Stay^d y^e Chh after Service, reported to them y^e Reasons which y^e several delinquent Members gave to y^e above Committee, for their absenting themselves &c all of whom, except *Benjamin Churchill* promised to use y^e Gospel Method for y^e Removal of y^e Difficulties y^t were in y^r Minds, & to return to their Duty. — which y^e Chh was satisfy^d with for y^e Present. — With respect to *Benj^a Churchill*, the Church Voted, That Our Brethren *Daniel Diman* & *John Cobb* be a Co^mittee to go & discourse further with him, endeavouring to bring him to a Sense of his Sin & Duty; he having absented for more than a twelve Month, both from Meeting & from y^e Ordinance of y^e Supper — upon no other Reason (as he inform^d y^e other Co^mittee) than because the people of y^e Town in general treated him with Contempt — calling him a Tory &c If this Co^mittee sho^d be² unsuccessful in their Endeavors with him — the Church then Voted that the Pastor be desired to send him a written Citation, or Summons to appear before y^e Church at y^r next Meeting, & answer for his Conduct.

Lords Day Noon — Apr^l 23. Stay^d y^e Chh to know y^r Minds concerning y^e Request of our Sister *Mercy Foster*, that her Grand-child, (whose Mother *Priscilla Foster* is deceased) now under her sole Care, may be baptiz^d — As it has been done before in like Cases there was no Objection, & Silence was taken for their Consent, & y^e Child to be baptiz^d accordingly this Afternoon Turn over [64] 1780 Church Records

Lords Day June 18.1780. Notify^d the Brethren to meet tomorrow 10 Clock A M to consider y^e Cases of those delinquent Members, mention^d in y^e preceed^g page & also, of y^e Expediency of choosing one or more Deacons, as *Deacon Bartlett* thrô bodily Indisposition rarely attends, & Dⁿ *Crombie*, infirm of late — The Chh met accordingly June 19th & after Consultation, Voted a Co^mittee be chosen to go & discourse once more with y^e offending Brethren, & endeavor^r to bring them to a Sense of their Sin & Duty — when The Pastor,

Chh met on
June 19th

¹ The first letter in this word has been altered.

² This word has been altered.

Vote

with Lemuel Bartlett & Sam^l Battles were chosen for y^s purpose. The Choice of Deacons, with y^e Request of John Goodwins Wife, desiring Baptism for her Husbands Children, were postponed to y^e next Meet^g, which was voted to be on Tuesday the 11th of July next at 3 Clock P M so adjourn^d to y^t time. Open^d & concluded with Prayer.

Lords Day Ev^g July 9th Notify^d the Brethren of y^e Chh meet^g which was proposed to be on Tuesday next, but as the Pastor was engag^d on a Journey the beginning of this Week, he requested them to meet tomorrow, July 10th, for y^e afores^d Purposes.

Votes

July 10th The Church met, generally — & with respect to the Cases of those Members who have walk^d disorderly, the Committee chosen reported that they had discoursed with them, & some seemed to be sensible of their Error & promised to reform — But *Benjamin Churchill* appearing still obstinate the Church Voted, that the Pastor be desired once more to cite him to appear at the next Church Meet^g, & let him know that if he refuses, they shall proceed according to the Rules of Cx against obstinate Offenders. With regard to *Nath^l Morton's* Case of Difference between him & Amaziah Churchill, the Chh chose our Brethren *John Cotton*, *Lem^l Bartlett* with the Pastor, a Com^{it}tee to endeavour the Healing of that Breach, by getting y^e Parties together, & such Evidences as may be procured, & so attempt to bring about a Reconciliation.

The Church did not see Light yet to come to the Choice of a *Deacon* — but express^d that it is their Desire, for y^e present that *Deacon Diman* of the 3^d Church, who constantly meets with us, would assist occasionally in that Office, as Need may require.

Adjourn^d this Meet^g without Day, to be call^d by y^e Pastor anew when it shall appear requisite, for y^e purposes afores^d Began & concluded with Prayer, & y^e Blessing.

Octob^r 8. Lords Day Ev^g, Stay^d y^e Chh & propos^d to them, a Meet^g of y^e Chh this Week on y^e Above Affairs — Br^o Cotton, being necessarily engaged desired another might be added to y^e Committee — Accord^gly chose Deacon Cromby to join wth y^e above Com^{it}tee in discoursing with y^e Brethren aforementioned, & notify^d y^e Chh to meet on Thursday next.

October 12th The Chh met, very generally, & taking y^e proposed Matters into their Serious Consideration, (after Prayer to God), they came to y^e following Votes —

Vote 1. Whereas there has been an unchristian Animosity & Quarrel between our Brethren Nath^l Morton & Amaziah Churchill, & the Chh have taken Several Measures to accommodate y^e Difference, but to no purpose, Voted that unless the Parties shall make up the Breach before the [65¹] the next Chh Meeting, they be both suspended from special Ordinances untill they do.

Vote 2^d The Church also voted, that whereas our Brother Benj^a Churchill in Addition to his other Sins, of long & habitual Absenting himself from all the Ordinances of y^e Gospel, evil Carriage in divers other Respects, treating the Committees of y^e Chh who have been sent to discourse with & try to bring him to Repentance &c &c has now, twice cast Contempt upon the Authority of Christ in his house, by refusing when able, to attend upon the Chh at their Meetings, when cited regularly to appear before them, he be, herfor *suspended* from all special Ordinances & Communion with y^e Chh & publickly *admonished*.

Vote 3^d Voted that y^e Chh cannot consent to accept of a private Confession before y^e Chh only, from our Brother Silas Morton, as the Sin he stands charged with, of Drunkenness, & other bad behavior, is public — that he therefore be allowed time to consider of y^e Matter, of a public Confession till y^e next Meeting of y^e Church.

Vote 4. That the Reasons alledged by our Brother Jesse Churchill, against Brother Theoph^s Cotton, for his uneasiness with him, in the Discharge of his Military Office towards him, sometime past, are not well grounded or satisfactory to y^e Church. Therefore, upon a Motion, *Voted* —

Vote 5. That our Brethren Thomas Mayhew, Deacon Crombie, Eben^r Cobb, Sam^l Battles & Daniel Diman, be a Co^mittee of y^e Chh to discourse with s^d Churchill to endeavor to convince him of y^e unjustifiableness of his absenting himself on y^e above Account. — Then adjourned the Meeting to Monday the 30th instant. 2 Clock P M. Concluded with Prayer & the² Blessing.

NB. The Pastor being necessarily absent out of Town on y^e Day to which y^e Chh Meeting was adjourned, they did not meet, as was proposed.

1781. Jan^r 7th Lords Day Evening Notify^d y^e Chh to meet at

¹ At the top of p. [65] is written "1780 & 81 Church Records."

² Written over another word.

y^e Meet^s house Tuesday next at 2, Afternoon, to consider further of the Matters abovementioned.

Tuesday Jan^r 9th The Church met, but so few, on account of y^e bad Weather that they concluded not to act upon y^e Affairs before them, but postpone them to a future Meeting, which is to be notify^d by y^e Pastor.

Lords day. Jan^r 28. Notify^d y^e Brethren to meet on Wednesday next, at the Pastor's house, (by Reason of the Season) to consider of the matters lying before them.

Wednesday Jan^r 31. The Church met, generally, at the Pastors house; & after Prayer; & Consultation upon the Matters lying before them, came to the following Determinations —

Vote 1. — Voted, that inasmuch as our Brother Benjamin Churchill has to the Grief & Astonishment of all y^e Chh, added Contempt & Obstinacy to all his other Sins, not only by refusing, when cited several times, to appear before y^e Church, but of late contemptuously refusing, when warned, to attend an Admonition in public, That y^e Pastor send him a written Admonition, & make the same known to the Congregation in publick together with his Behavior, & y^e Grounds & Reasons of the Church's Procedure against him.

Vote 2. Voted to choose a Committee to acquaint our Brother Silas Morton, that y^e Church still adhere to their last Vote respect^s him, & that they expect he will make a public Confession, or must be suspended from Communion. Voted — That our Brethren Theô Cotton & John Cobb be said Committee.

With regard to our Brother Jesse Churchill, he being present, after much Conversation, he engages to return to his Duty & attend on all Ordinances upon which the Church were satisfied. [66¹]
1781 Church Records

Voted 3. Also, considering the Case of Amaziah Churchill, he declaring his Adherence to what he did at a late Conference before the Churches Committee, viz, that he was willing to make up y^e Matter with Nath^l Morton, upon the Terms then agreed on, which were thôt satisfactory by y^e Committee at that Time — And Nath^l Morton alone appearing to fall from the Aggrement — The Chh voted to reconsider their Vote of y^e Octr 12th last so far as it respects

¹ This page is not numbered in the original.

s^d Churchill & that he be not suspended from Communion for y^e present.

Vote. 4. Whereas our Sisters Sarah Withrell (formerly Jackson) & Fear Goodwin Wife of John Goodwin, have requested Leave to bring the Children of their Husbands, not their own, to Baptism their Husbands not being Members in full Communion — the Church having repeatedly for Months past had the same under Consideration, & Advice being had, by their Desire, of a Number of the Ministers of y^e Churches of Christ around us, occasionally, who all gave it as their Opinion, that the Persons in Question had an undoubted Right to bring these Children to Baptism, — The Church Voted, very harmoniously, that their Request be granted & that the said Children be baptiz^d on Acc^t of their s^d Mothers in Law.

The Meeting adjourned to no particular Day. — then Prayer & y^e Blessing.

Lords Day March 4th 1781. Agreeable to the Vote of y^e Chh at their last Meeting, the Pastor sent to our Brother Benj^a Churchill, “*a written Admonition,*” & this Day, at the Close of public Worship, (conformably to their Vote) acquainted the Congregation with his unchristian Conduct & the Grounds of the Church’s Proceeding to admonish & suspend him from special Ordinances, & read to them the Admonition that was sent him, at which there appeared great Solemnity & much Affection in the Congregation. O that it may be blessed as a Means of Good to him & Others!

Nov^r 25th Lords Day Evening. Read to the Church, a Letter Missive from the first Chh in Middleborô, desiring the Presence & Assistance of this Chh by their Pastor & Delegates, at y^e Ordination of M^r Joseph Barker on the 5th of next Month — & the Chh voted to comply — & chose Thomas Mayhew, Deacon Crombie & Ebenezer Cobb y^e first, Delegates to represent y^e Church. Voted.

Dec^r 5th The Ordination Council met at y^e Precinct House in Middleb^o first Precinct, & after Examination of y^e Candidate, y^e Council unanimously voted to proceed to y^e Ordination. Rev^d M^r Turner¹ of Middlebor^o ² began with Prayer, the Pastor of this Chh preach^d from *John 15.5*. “*Without me ye can do Nothing.*” Rev^d M^r Shaw of Bridgw^r pray^d & gave y^e Charge, Rev^d M^r Le Baron of

¹ Written over “Shaw.”

² Written over “Bridgewater.”

Rochester pray^d after y^e Charge, & Rev^d M^r Judson of Taunton gave the Right Hand of Fellowship — a great Solemnity & becoming Decency was apparent thro y^e whole Transaction. May God make their Pastor a rich & lasting Bless^g to y^m & y^r Children. [67] 1782 Church Records.

Jan^{ry} 13. Lords Day Evening, Notify^d the Brethren to meet at the Pastor's House next Wednesday, at 2 Clock P M. in order to consider & determine what further Steps are to be taken with Several Members that walk disorderly.

Wednesd. Jan^r 16th The Chh met, & after Prayer to God, entered upon y^e Consideration of *Benjⁿ Churchills* Case, who still absents himself wholly, & for Years, from all Ordinances, & treats the Church with Contempt &c as before mentioned — The Chh sent for him to attend at this Meeting, but he refused, under pretext that he had not had sufficient Notice — but engaged that if the Chh wo^d appoint another Time, he would attend — to which the Chh, (that they might manifest Long suffering towards him before they proceed to extremity) consented. — Then proceeded to *Silas Mortons* Case, who had been previously notify^d to appear at this Meeting, but neglected to come. And as he still persists in refusing to make a public Confession of his Sins, & has for many Months past wholly neglected to attend the public Worship of God, & been repeatedly seen intoxicated wth strong Drink, of late The Chh unanimously gave their Voice that he should be *suspended* from all special Ordinances & *publicly admonished*.

Vote

Voted. That Brother *Nath^l Shurtleff* & *Deacon Crombie* be a Co^mittee to go & discourse wth our Sister *Patience Burgiss*, & know y^e Cause of her long absenting herself from y^e house of God, & other Conduct disorderly, which is reported of her, viz Spending her Earnings by labor, to intemperate purposes.

Voted. Also that the *Pastor*, with Br^o *Tho^s Mayhew* & Dⁿ *Crombie* be a Co^mittee to endeavor the healing of the Difficulty that subsists between our Brethren *Nathⁿ Morton* & *Amaziah Churchill*, which is not yet made up.

The *Pastor*, with Brⁿ *Tho^s Mayhew*, Dⁿ *Crombie* & *David Lothrop* are again desired to hear & endeavor to heal the Uneasiness that also subsists between our Br^o *Amaz^h* & *Jesse Churchill*—As *Jesse Chⁿ* still complains of hard treatment from s^d *Amaziah Churchill*.

Then voted to adjourn this Meeting to Tuesday ye 5th of Febr next to meet at y^e same place. — Concluded wth Prayer & the Blessing.

Febr 5th 1782. The Church met (in a full Chh meeting) according to Adjournment, & proceeded to consider first the Case of our Brother *Benjamin Churchill* who had promised the last Meeting, to attend at this, being previously notify^d to attend at this time, but did not come, nor give any sufficient reason in y^e Churches Mind, for not coming — Whereupon the Church unanimously came to the *following solemn Vote*, express^d, not by lifting up y^e hand, as in other Cases, but by each Member giving his Voice singulatim, “That whereas our Brother *Benjamin Churchill*, has for a long time even several Years wilfully & habitually neglected y^e public Worship & all the Ordinances of Gods house, & the Church have used every Method of gentle Expostulation, Advice & Entreaty, both by private Members & Co^mittees frequently chosen for that purpose, to endeavor to bring him to a Sense of his Sin & to recover him to his Duty, & all to no purpose, but he has added Contempt of y^e Church & y^e authority of J Christ in his house, by constantly refusing to attend at Chh Meetings when desired, Whereupon y^e Church were constrain^d to proceed to a formal *Vote* to publicly *admonish* him & to *suspend* him from special Ordinances, in hopes he might hereby be brot to Repentance [68 ¹] but he still remains incorrigible & refuses to return, *Wherefore* this Church, as bound in Duty, & by the Laws of Jesus Christ, do solemnly *Vote* & Declare, in Manner beforemention^d, that “Unless the s^d *Benj^a Churchill* shall manifest his Repentance by public Confession of his Sins, *within three Months* from this Time, he shall then, in y^e Name & by the Authority of Jesus Christ in his Church, be *publicly Excommunicated* & declared to be no longer in *Visible Relation to the Church & Visible Kingdom of Christ*.”

Voted — Also that Whereas our Brother *Silas Morton* has refused to attend in public Worship, when notify^d regularly thereto, in order to recieve *public Admonition*, agreeable to y^e Vote of the Chh at their last Meet^g, the Pastor be desired to send him a *written Admonition*.

The *Committees* chosen y^e last Meeting, then reported, that our Sister *Patience Burgiss* acknowledges her fault in absenting herself from Ordinances, pleads Poverty & Want of suitable Clothes, &

¹ At the top of p. [68] is written “1782 Chh Records.”

promises to use her Endeav^{rs} to provide herself with them, & speedily to attend her Duty. That the Differences between the several Brethren mention^d were, by the Blessing of God on the Endeavors of y^e Co^mmittees, very happily accommodated, & each promised to live in brotherly Love.¹

N.B. See Page 71² for y^e reason of this Erasurement.³

Vote

The Church also, at this time, *Voted* that the *Suspension* be taken off from Brother *Nathaniel Morton*, which was Voted at a former Church Meeting, on *Octob^r 12.1780.* the Cause thereof happily ceasing.

Vote

Lords Day April 21st 1782. At the Close of the publick Worship our Brother *Benjamin Churchill* appear^d & in a public Manner humbled himself before God & his people by a *Confession* of his Sins & his disorderly Walking (as recorded heretofore) — Whereupon The Church *Voted* that the Sentence of Suspension be removed & he be restored to Charity & to y^e Communion of his Brethren in all Ordinances, a Word of Exhortation was then given him to walk humbly, penitently & softly before God all his Days — then Prayer — & y^e Blessing. The Lord accept of & pardon & save him for Cx^s sake

Oct^r 6th Lords Day — Read a Letter Missive from y^e Chh in Wareham desiring y^e Assistance of this Chh by their Pastor & Delegates, at y^e Ordination of *M^r Noble Everitt* to y^e Pastoral Office over them, on y^e 16th of this Month. The Chh Voted to comply — & chose Deacon Crombie & Silvanus Bartlett to represent y^e Church on y^e occasion.

Oct^r 16. The Council met & ordain^d *M^r Everitt*. Rev^d *M^r Robbins* of Norfolk in Connecticutt began with Prayer — *M^r Knap* of Winchester preach^d fr. *2.Tim. 4.6.7.8.* *M^r Howland* of Plimton pray^d & gave y^e Charge — *M^r Le Baron* pray^d after y^e Charge, & y^e Pastor of this Chh gave y^e Right Hand of Fellowship.
[69] 1783 Church Records

N B. See Page 71.⁴ y^e Reason of this Erasurement.⁵

¹ Here seven lines are crossed out.

² P. [71] of the text, or p. 365 of this volume.

³ This is written in the margin.

⁴ P. [71] of the text, or p. 365 of this volume.

⁵ Here twenty-two lines, containing a record of meetings on May 11 and 14, 1783, are crossed out.

N. B. May 30th This day died, much lamented, that eminently godly Servant of the Lord, *Deacon Joseph Bartlett*, Aged 80 Years; & who has used the Office of a Deacon well in this Chh 38 Years & 1 Month. "Help Lord, for the godly man ceaseth, y^e faithful fail from among y^e Children of Men" !

Nov^r 2^d 1783. Stay^d the Chh at Noon, & proposed to them, the keeping a Day of *Fasting & Prayer*, on account of y^e mellencholly Decay of Religion, & to supplicate the Outpouring of y^e Holy Spirit upon us, for y^e Revival of it, agreeable to the antient, laudable Practice of this Chh, in times of Degeneracy, & of other Chhs & Congregations of late, especially in Connecticutt, where God has, in a remarkable manner, shown himself to be a hearer of Prayer, in pouring out his blessed Spirit on many Congregations there in which many hundreds of Souls have hopefully been brot into y^e Kingd^m of Christ at this Day. — Glory be to his Name! — The Chh, together with y^e Brethren of y^e 3^d Chh,¹ unanimously *Voted* to ob-
Voteserve *Thursday* next for y^e purposes beforementioned. And at y^e Close of Worship at Night y^e Congregation were inform^d of what y^e Chh had agreed on, & requested to join wth us on s^d Day — And they accordingly did, very generally, had a full meeting, & y^e Day was kept wth Solemnity — 3 Neighbouring Ministers attended — 2 of which, preach^d, viz Mess^{rs} *Niles & Barker* May y^e good Lord hear y^e Prayers of his people & send an Answer of Peace! [70] 1784
 Records of Chh Transactions continued

April 4th Lords Day Evening, Stay^d y^e Church after y^e Blessing, & communicated to them a Request & Proposal, exhibited in Writing, from the Members of the 3^d Church in this Town, to *re-unite* & incorporate with the first Chh & left the Matter for their serious Deliberation, till next Lords Day.

April 11th Lords Day P M. This Church having consider^d of y^e Proposal of the 3^d Chh as afors^d, & no Objections being offer^d against it, The Pastor, at the Close of public Worship, notify^d the Affair to the whole Congregation — as a very affecting & remarkable Dispensation of Divine Providence — observing to them, that after 40 Years Separation, (y^e 4th of next Month) there should be brôt about a Reunion of the Chhs. The paper was then read, as follows.

¹ Here the words "with us" are crossed out.

Wheras, in the Course ¹ of divine Providence, is brought about a Re-union of the first & third Parishes in the Town of Plimouth, which Union has been ratify^d by the Act of the General Court of this Co^monwealth at the joint Request of both Parishes, — We therefore, Members of the third Church of Christ in Plimouth afors^d, wishing to cultivate that harmony & brotherly Love which the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ inculcates, do propose an Incorporation of both the first & third Churches into One, hoping that y^e Interest of the great Head of the Church may be promoted thereby. At the same time, praying ² the God & Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that the Union may be productive of y^e happiest Consequences — that we may join our united Endeavors to promote the Interest & Kingdom of our divine Lord & Master in general, & among ourselves in particular — that we may all of us be Ornaments to the holy Religion which we profess, & after being faithful to the Death, may be admitted into the Church triumphant in Heaven never to seporate any more.

Also —

We the subscribers members of other Churches, having usually co^mmunicated with the 3^d Chh in Plimouth, desire to communicate with y^e first Chh in s^d town in all the ordinances of the Gospel.

Also —		Signed	
ELIZABETH WATSON	MARY THOMAS	JONATHAN DIMAN	} Males
SARAH MORTON	LYDIA HOLMES	WILLIAM WATSON	
MEHITABLE PAYN	SARAH SMITH	JOSIAH, MORTON	
MARY WARREN	MARTHA LEBARON	JOHN NELSON	
	SARAH TILSON	EPHRAIM SPOONER	
	BETHIAH DYER	MELATIAH MORTON	} Females
	MARY DOTEN	(wife of JOSIAH)	
		ELIZABETH SPOONER	
		ELIZABETH NELSON	
		HANNAH WHITE y ^e 2 ^d	
		MARY COBB	
		SARAH COBB	
		ELIZABETH DREW	
		ELIZABETH HOWLAND	
		PATIENCE COBB	
		LYDIA MASON	

On Lords Day April, 11th 1784, the above being presented, (as afors^d) to y^e first Church in Plym^o in public, was accepted, & the

¹ This word is obscure.

² Here "that" is crossed out.

Union of the two Churches solemnly ratify^d by a formal Vote of y^e Church.

Attest. CH: ROBBINS.

May God smile upon, & bless this Transaction for y^e Glory of his Name & y^e Edification of this Church! — The Texts preach^d from, this Day, on the Occasion, were, In y^e Forenoon *Psal.133:1*. “Behold how good & how pleasant for Brethren to dwell &c.” In y^e Afternoon *Gal.3.28*. — “For ye are all *One* in Christ Jesus” [71] 1784 & 1785 Chh Records continued

May 23^d Lords Day, At the Close of divine Worship Notify^d the Brethren of the Church to meet in the Meeting house next Tuesday, the 25th instant at 2 Clock P M, for the purpose of choosing one or more Deacons.

May 25th Tuesday. The Church met very generally, & after Prayer for Direction in the Affair before us, the Church unanimously voted to proceed to choose two Persons to the Office of Deacons. And upon bringing in the Votes, it appeared that Brother *Jonathan Diman*, & Br^o *Ephraim Spooner* were chosen to that Office, by a very great Majority. Upon which, on a Motion made, the Church *unanimously* voted their Concurrence in the Choice — Both of whom, after some Conversation on the Subject, agreed to take the Matter under Serious Consideration, & to give an Answer in due Time.

At the same Meeting, Brother Benj^a Rider, moved to the Church, whither those Passages in these Records, which relate to a Charge formerly bro’t against him, might not be wholly erased; as he apprehends they tend to give an unfavorable Idea of him, & y^e Charge being unsupported — Whereupon the Church voted to have those Passages which relate to their Transactions on this head, be erased & made illegible. The Passages are recorded in Page 49, 50, & 68, 69.¹ On which said Brother Ryder declares himself satisfy^d & will attend his Duty as before.

The Meeting was conducted with y^e greatest Love & Harmony, & concluded with Prayer & the Blessing.

1785. March 20th Lords day P M — Stay^d the Chh & read a Complaint of our Brother *Jesse Churchill* against Brother *Sam^l*

¹ Pp. [49, 50, 68, 69] of the text, or pp. 340, 340, 362, 362, of this volume.

Battles for breach of Promise in a Matter wherein they had Dispute. — After conferring a while upon it, the Church thôt proper there sh^d be a Meēt^s of y^e Church to consider upon proper Steps for a Reconciliation of y^e parties — Whereupon a Church Meeting was notify^d to be at the Pastors house tomorrow Evening the 21st instant.

March 21st The Chh met at the Pastors house this Evening, agreeable to Notification; & after Prayer, enter^d into Consultation with y^e Parties, heard what Brother *Battles* had to say to the Complaint against him by Brother *Jesse Churchill*, he urged that he had not exhibited before the Referees (chosen to settle y^e Matter) all y^e Evidence he could produce, in his Justificatⁿ, therefore wish^d for another hearing before them, & he doubted not their Award w^d be different from w^t they gave before. The Chh advised Br^e Churchill to consent to another hearing before y^e same Referees, he consented — & y^e Affair finally was settled between y^m by s^d Reference. [72] 1786 Records &c

As the Use of *Tate & Brady's* Version of the Psalms, with some Hymns annex^d, has obtain^d, in our publick Worship, for some time past, viz since January 8th 1771. at which time it was voted by the Church, to be used instead of the Old N England Version It may not be thôt improper, on a Subject of this kind, to record in this place, that by the Desire of numbers, in Church & Congregation, Doct^r Watts's Version of the Psalms, with his Book of Hymns, was proposed to be sung in public for a Season on Tryal, & then, that the Minds of the Congregation should be expressed, whither they would, in future, sing *Tate & Brady's* as before, or Doct^r Watts's. — After a Tryal of each, for several Months, it was agreed that the matter be determined at a public Meeting of the Inhabitants of this first Precinct, in their annual Precinct Meeting, & In consequence of proper Notice previously given, on

On March 21 1786 At a very full meeting of s^d Precinct,¹ the Vote was called, which of the two versions they will use, & *Voted*, that Doct^r Watts's Version of the Psalms, & Hymns united, be sung in future, in our public Worship, viz, 17 Votes for *Tate & Brady*, & 38 for Doct^r Watts's, to which the rest amicably agreed. May God bless the Use of said Evangelical Psalms & Hymns, for the spiritual

D^r Wattss
Psalms &
Hymns voted.

¹ Here a word is crossed out.

Edification of his people, that we may be prepared to join the Song of Moses & the Lamb, in the heavenly World!

1787. Oct^r 18th At a Sacramental Lecture, the Chh were desired to tarry after the Blessing, & the Pastor communicated to them the Request of our Brother William Curtiss, (now living in Pembroke) viz, "That since, by the providence of God, he is removed from us, & not being satisfy^d with the Preaching of¹ the Minister of that Place, & becoming acquainted with a Baptist Society, among whom he thinks the Gospel is preached in Purity, & as he has no prospect of returning to this Place to live again, he requests a Dismission from this Chh, & to be recomēded to the Baptist Chh, of which M^r Robinson is the minister." — The Chh took the matter into Consideration & were, finally, of Opinion, that our Brother Curtiss has been too hasty in this Affair, not having consulted either the Pastor or his Brethren on the Subject, before he had come to a fix^d conclusion, that our Chhs were wrong as to the Mode & Subjects of Baptism — & had determin^d to join them before he made Application to have any Objections answ^d, or Difficulties [73²] Difficulties solved, which he laboured under. The Chh therefore Voted

Voted, That the Pastor be desired to write to our Brother *Curtiss*, & inform him of the Sentiments of his Brethren respecting this Matter, & his Conduct afores^d — & also voted to choose a Committee of *five*, beside the Pastor, to discourse with Him, & endeavor yet to answer the Objections he has against our Practice in Regard to Baptism, & to convince him of his Error, in that he would by his Conduct, in joining them & being rebaptiz^d, virtually declare this Chh, (with ³ whom he declares ⁴ himself to be in the fullest Charity) to be no Church — & in fact, would implicitly unchurch all the Chhs in the Land, that are not Baptists.

The Brethren chosen, to be of this Co^mittee, in conjunction with the Pastor, were, *John Cotton*, Deacons *Diman*, *Crombie* & *Spooner*, & *William Watson*.

1790. Dec^r 26th Lords Day. Stay^d the Brethren of the Chh, after the Blessing at Night, & proposed to them the Case & Request

¹ Written over another word, perhaps "in."

² At the top of p. [73] is written "1790 Records."

³ Written above a word crossed out.

⁴ Written above a word crossed out.

Benja Clark's
Wife's Case

of Clark, wife of Benjamin Clark, as follows. She is sick & suppos^d far gone in a Consumption — has lately recieved great Peace & Satisfaction of Mind, respecting an Interest in the favor of God thro' Christ, tho' before, has been in great distress on account of her Soul, & tho'tless life she lived, The Pastor inform^d the Chh, he had converse^d with her, & was much satisfy^d & tho't there was sufficient reason to hope she had met with a real Change of Heart. Several of y^e Brethren had done y^e same. She is earnestly desirous to give herself up to God, & his Chh, & if consistent, to join the Lord's Visible people, & our Christ before y^e World, & that her Children might be baptiz^d.

The Pastor inform^d the Brethren, that there was one Precedent, or Instance of a similar Case, before this Chh in March, 1764, of *Lydia Cornish* After conversing a while on the Case, it appearing that there was no Opposition to the following Vote, (similar to that in Page 40¹) it was put, &

Voted That the Chh are so far satisfied with the Account given of Clark, wife of Benj^a Clark, & of her Profession & Desire, that they are willing to recieve her to their² Fellowship & Communion, provided her health should be so far restored, as to enable her to come to the House of God, & renew her Covenant in the usual way — & also willing, in Consequence of her present Profession & Desire, that (considering her peculiar Circumstances) his Children may, on her Right, be baptiz^d. (She is a baptiz^d Person.)

1791. Lords day, Jan^r 2^d. Stay^d y^e Chh at Noon, & mention^d to them, a proposal which hath been made by some of the Chh, that Benj^a Clarks Wife, (the person mention^d in the foregoing Article) be recieved into our Communion in her own house, in Consequence of her being apprehended near her End first as it was tho't this wo^d not be inconsistent with y^e former Vote, but agreable to the Spirit of it. Also, because it seemeth more agreable to Propriety that the [74³] that before she partakes of the special Priviledges of the Chh, & the Seal of the Covenant, viz Baptism for her Children on her Right,

¹ P. [40] of the text, or p. 328 of this volume.

² The words "recieve her to their" are somewhat obscure, being written over some words erased.

³ Altered from "72." The words "1791 Church Records continued" are written at the top of p. [74].

that she should first acknowledge & own that Covenant, by her own Act & Deed.

And thirdly, because it would take away any Occasion of Stumbling to *others without*, who, tis said have objected the Impropriety & Inconsistency of the Church's Conduct — in this Instance to baptize Children, without y^e Parents assenting to any Covenant at all — when, in other Cases a solemn Covenant must be owned, & the person recieved into y^e Fellowship of the Church, by a public Trans-action, before the Benefit of Baptism for their Children can be enjoy^d — &

Lastly, Because we find, by credible Information, that it has been the Practice of other Churches, on such *special* Occasions, to admit Persons into Chh fellowship at a private House, the Church being notify^d to be present for that purpose.

After free consultation, the Brethren were satisfy^d with the proposal & accordingly were notify^d to appear at the house of Benj^a Clark this Evening at Six o Clock, for the purpose above mention^d.

Lords day Evening, Jan^r 2^d 1791. The Church met according to Notification & a Number of the Congregation also, at the house of M^r Benjamin Clark, & after some discourse with *Phebe Clark* his Wife, in which she manifested much of the Spirit of a Christian, & also renewed her Request to be admitted into the Fellowship & Communion of this Chh — The Pastor proceeded to tender the Covenant to her, to which she openly signify^d her Consent, & so was solemnly recieved & declared a Member in full Communion with this Church. and her two young Children were then baptized. Concluded the whole with Prayer — & the Chh were dismiss^d

The Grounds & reasons of this Procedure, (being out of the usual Mode in this Church) are given in the preceeding Articles of Record — in this & y^e foregoing Page.

Oct^r 23^d Lords day Evening, read a Letter Missive from the Pastor, the Church and a number of aggrieved of the Chh in y^e first Parish in Rochester, desiring the presence & assistance of this Chh, by their pastor & Delegates, to hear & advise (in concurrence with 4 other Chhs) on some uncomfortable Differences that subsist among them especially between y^e Pastor, y^e Rev^d M^r Moore & Maj^r Earl Clap, &c the council were to meet Nov^r 1st ensuing, i e, y^e Evening

before. The Chh comply^d & chose Deacons Crombie & Spooner for Delegates. [75] 1791 1792 Records continued

Oct^r 31st Accordingly the pastor with the deacons afors^d, attended this Evening at y^e house of M^r Lot Haskell in Rochester — the other Churches sent to also came — & the Council formed this Evening — chose y^e Pastor of this Chh Moderator, & Rev^d M^r Sanger Scribe — The Council consisted of Rev^d Mess^{rs} Turner, of Middleb^o — Niles of Abington — Sanger of South Bridgwater — Barker of Middleb^o & the pastor of this Chh, with their Delegates. — 13 in all.

Nov^r 1st The Council met, by Desire, in y^e Meetinghouse, & proceeded to a public hearing of y^e Charges, Complaints &c exhibited by y^e Parties — their Witnesses, Depositions &c &c which lasted by adjournments, from Day to day (in public) till Tuesday Nov^r 8th Then the Council adjourn'd to the house of Entertainment, M^r Lot Haskells, where they sat till Fryday P M — then, went to y^e Meeting house, (& after a pertinent & excellent sermon preached by y^e Rev^d M^r Niles,) the Mod^r read y^e Result of y^e Council, to a very numerous & anxiously expecting Assembly — which Result was left, with¹ them, & a copy of it read to this Chh, in presence of y^e Congregation, as is customary. May that God in whose hands² are the hearts of all, by this Result, promote his own Glory, the Cause of Truth & Righteousness, & the best Good of that poor, divided Chh & people, & their pastor!

1792 Lords Day Jan^y 22^d 1792. Notify^d the Brethren of y^e Chh to meet at the Pastor's house on *Tuesday* P M. next — to consider several Matters then to be laid before them, at the request of several of y^e Church.

Tuesday Jan^r 24th The Chh met agreeable to Notification — when, after Prayer, the Pastor mentioned the Subject for Consideration — which had also been discoursed upon about 2 Months before, by the greater part of the Chh, at a private Conference at Deacon Crombie's — 1st Whither the Chh will now agree to meet statedly *twice in a year* for the express purpose of attending more specially to the Matter of Discipline — & to examine into the conduct of its Members — & take suitable measures for reclaim^s those who walk disorderly

1.

¹ The first letter in this word is written over "C."

² Written over another word, perhaps "hearts."

& thereby bring a Scandal on Religion. 2 Whither the Chh will take some proper Steps to raise a *Fund* for the purpose of relieving the poor, distress^d members of it, as often suitable objects shall appear — & 3^{dly} (Turn over [76¹]) & 3^{dly} To know the minds of ² the brethren, respecting the insisting on *written Relations*, being read in public,³ as a necessary term of admission into this Chh, as has been practised in ⁴ time past. — The Brethren conversed some time on the foregoing Subjects, particularly, the last mention^d And finally, without coming to any Vote on this Article, it appeared to be the minds of the Chh, not to recede from, but continue the former practice, with respect to Relations.

With regard to the other two Articles — The Church *Voted* unanimously — 1st That they will meet in Chh Conference twice a year, viz, some time in the Month of *April* & in y^e month of *October* annually, for the purpose mentioned in the first article on the other Side — viz Chh Discipline &c. Also *Voted* unanimously that this Chh will comply with the proposal mentioned in the 2^d Article — relating to a Fund for the relief of poor Members — & that the Chh shall, accordingly, be notify^d to come prepared to contribute for this purpose, on the *Sabbath next following the Chh's Conference in April & October*, annually. The meet^s concluded with Prayer.

1792. April 15th Lords day Evening, Notified the Members of y^e Chh, that, agreeably to the late Vote, next Sabbath the Collection for the poor of the Chh would take place — & previously to it, the Brethren ⁵ were desired to meet on *Wednesday* next, at the Pastors house, at 3 Clock P M — it being the semiannual Meeting on the Subj^t of Discipline — & to enquire into the Conduct of y^e Members of the Chh, who walk disorderly.

Wednesday. April 18. The Chh met according to notification, After Prayer, entered into a free Conversation on y^e Subject proposed — & came to y^e following Votes —

Voted That the three Deacons, *Diman, Crombie & Spooner*, be a Committee to go & discourse with y^e Members of y^e Chh who are

¹ At the top of p. [76] is written "Records & Transactions continued."

² Here the words "the minds of" are crossed out.

³ Here "being" is crossed out.

⁴ Written over another word.

⁵ The words "the Brethren" are written over some other words, perhaps "the Congregation."

reported to have walk^d in a disorderly manner, particularly in absentsing themselves from Ordinances. Voted [77¹] *Voted*, also, That the Pastor be desired, & ² is chosen to recieve, the Collections that may be made at the half yearly Contributions for the poor of y^e Chh, & to distribute them to those whom he shall find to be proper Objects of this Charity. The Meeting was concluded with Prayer, as usual.

Lord's day, April 22^d The collection was made accordingly, after the Evening Service was ended — in which some of the Congregation also joined. The public discourses of y^e Day were from *Math. 25. 40.*

Sept^r 23^d Lord's Day Ev^g. Stay^d the Chh, in order to a more easy & free Conversation with them, on the Subject of a Letter missive, rec^d from a Number of dissatisfied Brethren of the Chh at *Wrentham* under y^e Care of y^e Rev^d M^r Avery requesting the Assistance of this Chh, at a Council of 9 Chhs — to meet the 2^d of October. Being at a Loss about going myself, from Indisposition partly — & also from its being an Exparte Council, I wanted a more free Communication on the Subject, with y^e Chh than I could have, (for want of bodily strength) before the whole Congregation — it being otherwise always customary to read such Letters missive, before the Congregation. — After discoursing a while, however, such Reasons were suggested, as that the Chh, on ye whole, — voted to comply with the Request — & chose Deacons *Crombie, Spooner, & Br^o Daniel Diman*, (in case either of y^e others sho^d fail) as *Delegates*.

Votes.

Mem^o We did not go to s^d Council, by reason of a violent Storm of Rain.

Lord's day Oct^r 14th, Notify^d the Semiannual *Contribution* for the Poor of the Chh, to be next Lords day, at the Close of Worship in the Afternoon, — Also the *Chh Conference*, to be next *Thursday* 2 Cl. P M, at y^e Pastor's house, both, in conformity to the Vote of this Chh passed in January last.

Thursday, Oct^r 18th The Chh met according to appointment, but it being very rainy, & but few attended, it was thought best to adjourn, & accordingly the meeting was adjourned to Nov^r 1st, on *Thursday*, i e a fortnight from this time. The Deacons, (a Co^mittee)

¹ At the top of p. [77] is written "1792 Records &c continued."

² Written over "to."

to notify & warn our Brother *Benjⁿ Churchill*, to appear at s^d meeting, & give his Reasons for absenting himself so long, from all Ordinances.

Lords day Oct^r 28th Notify^d y^e Chh to meet this week, on *Fryday* at 2 Clock P M, instead of *Thursday*, (to which y^e Meeting was ad-journed) by reason the Pastor would probably be necessarily absent on Thursday at an Association of Ministers this week.

Fryday. Nov^r 2^d 1792. The Chh met accordingly at the Pastor's house — & after Prayer, conversed on Several Subjects proper to y^e Occasion, with respect to Discipline — Particularly y^e Case of Br^o *Benjamin Churchill*, [78¹] whom the Co^mittee before mentioned had notified to attend this Meeting, but he refuses, not giving any sufficient reason. Whereupon the Chh came to the following Vote — That² Whereas our Brother *Benjamin Churchill* has for a long time absented himself from all Ordinances of Gods house, & thô much pains has been taken by y^e Chh to convince & reclaim him, by private conversation, & by Co^mittees of y^e Chh, he still refuses to reform, & has also refused to attend the Meeting of y^e Chh, when warned to attend & give his reasons. Nov^r 2^d

Voted — That the Pastor, in the Name of the Chh, send him a written *Admonition* — & at y^e same time let him know that if he doth not make his Peace with the Chh. by a suitable Confession before y^e Church of his Sin & unchristian behavior before the³ Ex-piration of two Months, viz before y^e *first Thursday in January* next, the Church will then proceed according to the Rule in such cases, to suspend, & (unless he repent) to excommunicate him from this Church.

Voted. Also, that the Pastor be desired to furnish our Sister *Patience Burgiss*, out of the Chh's Contribution, with such articles of Clothing as she may stand in need of to enable her to attend, with Decency, the publick Worship & Ordinances — She being very poor.

The meeting was attended with great Unanimity, Solemnity & Brotherly Affection, & concluded with Prayer.

1793. Jan^{ry} 6th Lords Day. — After divine Service at Night the Chh was Stay^d, & after some Conversation, respecting the

¹ At the top of p. [78] is written "1792 Church Records Continued."

² Here "Vote" is crossed out.

³ Here a word, perhaps "Church," is crossed out.

Affair of our Brother Benjamin Churchill, (whose Case is mention^d above) — the Chh was notify^d to meet at the Pastor's house on Thursday next 2 Clock P M. to consider what is further to be done respecting him — *See next page but two.*¹

[79] Confessions

Apr^l 1. 1764. — Lydia Cornish Wife of John — Confess^d Fornicatⁿ — & was restor^d to Charity. *See page 39.*²

Nov^r 8th 1767. Seth Barnes a Member, now living in New Yarmth in Nova Scotia, made public Confession of y^e Sin of Fornication, & was restored to Charity & Communion wth this Chh.

March 19. 1769. Abigail Holmes, Wife of Lemuel Holmes, made publick Confession of the breach of y^e 7th Comm^d — i e Fornication, as also breach of her Covenant, in so long neglect^s to come to y^e Ordinances, & was restored to Communion.

April 2^d 1769. John King made public Confession of the Sin of Profaness, as well as long absenting from y^e Ordinance of y^e Lords Supper, (being a Member of the ³ 2^d Chh in Plimpton) & was restored to occasional Communion with this Chh — & afterwards recommended to & recieved into this Chh.

Nov^r 26. 1769. Flora, formerly Servant to John Bartlett, now living in Middleborô, a member of this Chh, made publick Confession of Intemperance & other bad Conduct, and was restored to Charity & Communion.

May 20. 1770. Lucia Watson, Wife of John Watson, made Confession of the Sin of Fornication, & was recieved into full Communion with this Chh.

Nov^r 10. 1771. Patience Burgess made publick Confession of y^e Sin of Fornication & was restored to Communion.

Nov^r 29. 1778. David Bacon & Abigail his Wife, of y^e Sin of Fornication & were recieved to Christian Charity.

June 13th 1779. Hannah Winslow, (formerly Torrey) of y^e Sin of Fornication & was restored to Christian Charity & Co^mmunion.

April 23^d 1780. Sarah Barnes, Wife of Lem^l — of Fornication, & rec^d to full Communion.

¹ The reference is to p. [81] of the text, or p. 375 of this volume.

² P. [39] of the text, or p. 328 of this volume.

³ Altered from "this."

April 30. 1780. Rebecca Bartlett, Widow of W^m Dec^d of Fornication & rec^d to Communion.

July 30. 1780. Desire Goodwin, Wife of Thomas Goodⁿ — of Fornicatⁿ & rec^d to Communion.

Aug^t 12. 1781. Hannah Cooper Wife of Richard Cooper — of Fornicatⁿ & rec^d to Co^munion.

Nov^r 11. 1781. Richard Cooper — of Fornication & rec^d to Communion.

D^o Zilpah Bramhall Wife of George Bramhall of Fornicatⁿ & rec^d to Commⁿ

Dec^r 16. Deborah Atwood — of Fornication & rec^d to Commⁿ.

1788 Dec^r 28. Ruth Morton — of Fornication & rec^d to Commⁿ
[80¹] [81] 1793 Chh Records continued from page 78²

Jan^r 10th Thursday. The Chh met accordingly, at y^e pastor's house, after some Conversation, the Chh came to y^e following Votes Unanimously — viz

That our Brother Benjamin Churchill's offence is of such a public Vote 1. Nature, viz his long continued Absence from all Ordinances, & refusing to return, or to give Satisfaction to the Church thô frequently requested by one co^mittee after another — that it is the Opinion and is unanimously voted that he should make his *Confession in public*, before the Congregation, in order to his being restored to the Charity & Co^munion of the Church.

Voted that *Deacon Diman* & *Deacon Crombie* be a Co^mittee to go — 2^d & inform him of the determination of the Chh respecting him & to desire him to attend at their next Chh meeting.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourned *a fortnight* to meet again at — 3^d the Pastor's house.

This adjournment, & the Chh's forbearing to suspend our Brother Churchill from Co^munion, at this time agreeable to their Vote at their last Meeting was expressly in Condescension to his bodily Infirmary & to manifest all possible Tenderness towards him, as he declared to one of the Brethren his Indisposition of body was the only thing that prevented his coming this day to the Chh Meeting, & that it was his purpose to attend his Duty, & conform to the Rules of the Gospel, by a Christian Behavior.

¹ P. [80] is blank.

² P. [78] of the text, or p. 374 of this volume.

The Meeting was begun & concluded with Prayer.

Jan^r 24. 1793. Thursday. — The Chh met — but a small Number, (on acc^t of the public civil Rejoicing this day, in this town, for y^e *Successes* which divine Providence has given to France, against the ¹ combined Enemies of their freedom ²) therefore adjourn^d to *next Thursday*, y^e 31st instant, to meet at y^e pastor's house.

Jan^y 31st The Chh met — but it being stormy, & but few attended, the Meeting was adjourn^d to next Tuesday, y^e 5th of Feb^{ry} to meet at the Pastors house.

Feb^r 5th The Chh met accordingly, our Brother *Benj^a Churchill* attended & after Prayer, a conversation was had with him — & he confessed his faults, in those matters charged against him, as above & beg^d forgiveness of God & his Brethren, & hoped that wherein he had done iniquity, he should, by divine grace enabling, do so no more. The Church appeared satisfied, so far, & were ready to restore him to their Charity, but did not vote, at this time, to dispense with his making a public confession, before the Congregation, agreeable to their Vote pass^d y^e 10th Jan^y. See *Vote 1st 3*

The Meeting was opened & concluded with Prayer. — Turn over [82] 1793 Chh Records continued

Feb^r 17th Lords day Evening, Stay^d the Chh, & the Pastor having recieved a written Confession, from Bro. *Benj^a Churchill*, of his former unchristian conduct, with a Request that the Church would accept of it, without making it before the Congregation, it was laid before them & ⁴ for reasons mentioned, after some conversation, the Church, in consideration of some circumstances relative to his case, which were not so particularly attended to, or known when the matter was before them, did *Vote* to reconsider the vote of the 10th Jan^y last, & to accept of his Confession made before the Church.

April 21. Notify^d the Chh to meet at y^e Pastor's house tomorrow P M being the Semiannual Conference, accord^g to usage & Vote — & the Semiannual Contribution also to be y^e next Sabbath.

April 22^d The Chh met accordingly, After prayer, conversed on several matters proper to the Occasion — & it being mention^d that several of the Congregation, as well as Chh, wish^d to assist in y^e

¹ Altered from "their."

² For the title of the address delivered by Mr. Robbins, see p. lvii, above.

³ P. [81] of the text, or p. 375 of this volume. ⁴ Here "&" is crossed out.

Contribution, but were desirous it might be extended, in the distribution of it, to the distress^d of y^e *Congregation* as well as of the Chh, & twas apprehended the first Object, viz y^e Relief of the Chh's poor, would be more likely to be attained by thus altering & extending the plan of Contribution, it was now Voted, That y^e above plan sho^d be adopted, at least for y^e present

Also, It being moved, it was agreed by the Chh, that, for y^e benefit & Convenience of those of the Congregation, who wish to tarry as Spectators, at y^e Sacrament, the *Wall Pews* round the Meeting house, be appropriated for that purpose, the Members of Chh occupying them, moving, at Sacrament time, into other Seats.

Oct^r 6th Lords Day Even^g — Read to the Chh, in presence of y^e Congregation, a *Letter Missive* from a Church in Rochester, desiring the presence & Assistance of this Chh, by their Pastor & De- Delegates, at y^e Ordination of M^r Calvin Chaddock to the work of y^e Ministry on y^e 10th instant — Whereupon y^e Chh

Voted to comply with the Request of s^d Chh — & also

Voted That Deacon Cromby & Deacon Spooner, be y^e Delegates.

Oct^r 10th Attended on s^d Ordination, Dⁿ Spooner with the Pas^r & 9 other Chhs [83] 1793 Chh Records continued

Nov^r 9th *Mem^o* After the Example of my venerable & pious Predecessor, y^e Rev. M^r Leonard, I think it may be for the Glory of God, the honor of the Redeemer, the Comfort of his Children & the Benefit of Posterity, to mention here, & leave upon Record, the wonderful Displays of Gods rich & sovereign Grace towards this Place, in a remarkable *Revival of Religion* by the blessed Outpouring of the Spirit of God, this Year, which first began to appear the latter part of December &¹ beginning of January last. No uncommon Dispensation of Providence, no public Calamity, or any thing of that nature, had taken place, which might be assign^d as a Cause of it — It seemed apparently to be by the Still small Voice of y^e Spirit of God, and his secret but powerful Operation upon the hearts of one & another, untill it became more & more extensive — & a general Solemnity & Serious Concern seem^d to prevail thrô the Town. Besides our public Assemblies on Lords Days, we² had frequent Lectures in public & private, on Week Days — & religious Meetings for

Acct of Revival
of Religion, this
year

¹ Apparently written over "or."

² Here a word, apparently "beside," is crossed out.

Conference & social Worship in private houses, several Evenings in the week, in different parts of the Town. — Among which, it is remarkable, that the *young Children*, from 7 to 15 & 16 Years old, voluntarily agreed to meet once or twice a week, (under the patronage, & with the Leave of their Parents & Guardians) in which they prayed, sang & read & conversed upon the great Things of another World, & behaved with great Decency, order & Solemnity — several of these, we have reason to hope, have, in this time, met with a saving Change. — Many Scores, I may say, I believe hundreds of Persons, of different Ages in the Town have been seriously impressed with the infinitely important Concerns¹ of their Souls & Eternity — & we have reason humbly to hope, a goodly Number have been made the happy Subjects of the free, saving Grace of God, & have witnessed a good Confession, & hitherto walk agreeably to their profession. More than *fifty* have already been added to the Chh — & many more, are expected to join, who have express^d their Desire, & who entertain a hope of being savingly converted. [84] 1793 Chh Records continued. Of y^e Revival &c continu^d

It is also to be remarked, with Satisfaction & Gratitude, that during this wonderful Work of Gods Power & Grace here, it has been free from those Irregularities, Disorders, & corrupt mixtures, which have, in times past, been the unhappy occasion of opposition, & of great Reproach being brot upon Religion. And altho' it is not to be expected (while y^e world stands, & while y^e Chh of Christ is in its militant State), but that the Enemies of Christ & Religion will be opposed to y^e Truths & Cause of God — yet we have reason to be thankful, there hath been less *visible* Opposition to this work, than has² been usual. — Thanks to y^e almighty Power & restrain^g grace of God!

And it is pleasing & beautiful to see many who are quite *young*, engaged in religion, devoting themselves to his service in the days of their youth, & crying *Hosanna* to the Son of David. “Out of y^e mouths of Babes & Children God hath ordained Praise” — has been verified among us.

It is likewise a pleasing Sight, to behold, the Love & unity & sweet Comunion that subsists among Christians, who often meet together,

¹ Written over “things,” crossed out.

² This word has been altered.

& “*speak often and to another,*” to¹ mutual Edification, comfort & quickening.

And, I would speak of it with thankfulness; we have found unspeakable Benefit from such private Conferences, & have reason to believe they have been remarkably own’d of God, as a means of keeping alive a sense of God & Eternal Things — even “as Iron sharpeneth Iron.” & we have been often constrain’d to say at such times, “*Surely God is in this place*” — & that “*It is good to be here.*”

And blessed be the name of God, that we have still the Tokens of God’s Presence among us, now, when it is more than *10 Months* since the Awakening began — &

I have cause to remark, with humble Gratitude to God his goodness to an unworthy Creature, in strengthening & supporting him under arduous² labors, (naturally of a very feeble Constitution) for so long a time — in preaching, visiting, conversing with persons under Soul Concern — Conferences &c &c

To God be all, all the Praise & Glory, thro Jesus Christ. And may his name be magnified, & his work be still carry’d on here, & prevail thro y^e Land & World — till it is fill’d with his Glory, Amen.

This is recorded for a memorial, to the honor of y^e blessed Redeemer, & may y^e generations to come see it, & praise the name of y^e Lord.

CH^R ROBBINS

[85] 1793 Chh Records Contin’d

Oct^r 27th Lords day Evening — Notify’d y^e Chh to meet at the Pastors house next Fryday, being the *semiannual Meeting*, according to a former Vote of y^e Chh, (*See Page 76³*), & also the Contribution as usual, to be the Sabbath following.

Nov^r 1st The Chh met at the Pastors house, accordingly. — And after Prayer to God — had a free & friendly Conference on Subjects proper for y^e Occasion — And came to the following Votes. — viz

Vote 1. Whereas our Sister *Elizabeth Morton* (wife of Elisha), has for a long time, neglected to bring her Children to Baptism, & it is also reported that she has attempted to dissuade others from bringing their Children that it is the unanimous Opinion of the Chh,

¹ Here “their” is crossed out.

² Altered apparently from “arduous.”

³ P. [76] of the text, or p. 371 of this volume.

that such a Conduct is very irregular & reprehensible, & contrary to her Covenant Engagement.

Voted 2^d That a Committee be chosen to discourse with her on the Premises.

Vote 3^d That *three* be chosen for y^e Purpose aforesaid. — &

Vote 4. That y^e *Pastor*, Deac^{ns} *Crombie* & *Spooner*, be this Committee.

And on Information that there was just reason to apprehend that our Sister *Patience Burgiss* has been guilty of Intemperance — Voted

Vote 5. That the *Pastor*, with some or any one of the Brethren, be desired to discourse with her & enquire into the Occasion of such Report. &c & to report her Answer, at the Adjournment of this meeting.

And whereas our Br^o *Amaziah Churchill* represented to the Church, that he is aggrieved with our Sister *Mercy Bramhall*, on Account of money which he thinks is justly due to him, from her late husband's Estate, & thinks she ought, in Justice & Conscience, to repay him *her third* part, of the s^d debt, it being a difficulty of long standing, & intricate, the Chh, (agreably to his offer & proposal, to have the matter left to 3 judicious, disinterested Persons, & he promising to be easy with & abide by their Determination) y^e Chh thôt it reasonable, & therefore

Voted, 6th That the *Pastor*, *Deacon Cromby* & Brother *James Prince*, be be a Committee, who are desired to go & converse with M^{rs} *Bramhall* & inform her that the Chh think the Proposal to be reasonable & christian like, & that she ought to comply with it.

Adjourned to next *Monday week*, y^e 11th instant 2 Clock. — clos^d wth Prayer.

Nov^r 11th Monday. — Met at y^e *Pastor's* house agreable to Adjournment — After Prayer, y^e committees above, reported to y^e Chh, on y^e Several Cases ¹ before mentioned.

Vote. .

On y^t of our Sister *Elizabeth Morton*, The Chh Voted they are satisfy^d as it appears her ² Neglect to offer her Children in Baptism, arose from some Conscientious Scruples she *then* had in her mind, about infant Baptism — & not from contempt of y^e Ordinance. —

¹ Here "therein" is crossed out.

² This word has been altered.

As to her dissuading others, she has no Remembrance of it, But if she did she acknowledges it was wrong, & asks forgiveness.

Again [86¹] Also, with Regard to our Sister *Patience Burgiss* — y^e Committee who discoursed with her, were, by no means satisfy^d, which they reported to y^e Chh — Whereupon the Church

Voted, That our Brethren *Silvanus Bartlett*, *Daniel Diman* & *Deacon Spooner* be a Co^mmittee to go & inform her that unless she shall make her peace with y^e Chh, agreeable to Gospel rule, before, or at y^e next Meeting of the Church, for her disorderly Conduct, she will be suspended from Communion. — Also

Voted, That *Deacon Crombie* & *Spooner* & Br^o *James Prince* be a Co^mmittee to go & discourse further with our Sister *Mercy Bramhall*, respecting y^e Complaint of Brother *Amaziah Churchill*, & endeavor to persuade her to execute her proposal, & y^e Church's Desire, of having that matter left to be decided by three impartial, judicious Men.

Concluded the Meeting with Prayer, & adjourned to this Day fortnight, viz, to y^e 25th inst, to meet at Dⁿ *Spooner's*.

Monday, Nov^r 25th Met according to Adjournment at Dⁿ *Spooners* — but there being very few Members, Adjourned to Thursday this week, y^e 28th inst, to meet at y^e Pastor's house.

Nov^r 28th Met accordingly — but a very few being there, adjourned again to Monday next Dec^r 2^d to meet at y^e Pastors house, at 2 Clock P M.

Dec^r 2^d Monday. Met accordingly — After prayer, & conversation on y^e Subjects before them, The Chh Voted — That as our Sister *Burgiss* has not comply^d with the Vote of y^e Chh pass^d y^e 11th ins^t that she be suspended from our Co^mmunion, agreeable to y^t Vote. Voted.

Voted That Brother William Watson & Dⁿ *Spooner* be a Co^mmittee to endeavor (if occasion call) by discoursing with *Benjamin*, y^e Son of our Sister *Mercy Bramhall*, to have the affair between her & our Bro. *Amaziah Churchill*, settled amicably & justly, without giving further trouble to M^{rs} *Bramhall* — as she appears greatly agitated about it, & is far advanced in Life, & ignorant of business of y^t kind, & depends on her Children to settle all Matters relative to y^e Estate of her late Husband. [87²] 1793 Dec^r 2^d Chh Records contin^d

¹ At the top of p. [86] is written "1793 Nov^r 11th Chh Records continued."

² Every page-number on pp. [87-101] of the text has been altered.

Then adjourned to this day fortnight, to meet, if necessary at *Deacon Diman's* — to be mentioned to y^e Chh y^e Sabbath Evening before — & if not necessary, then no mention made, & y^e Meeting dissolv^d.

Lord's Day Evening. Dec^r 8th Stay^d the Church, & related to them the following transaction — viz. That on Fryday last, the Pastor was called to see *Priscilla Thomas*, Wife of Nath^l Thomas Jun^r, who was very sick, & appeared near her End — he had often seen & discours^d with her in her Sickness before; at which times, she manifested no good hope of her being prepared to die — was in much distress of Mind in y^e View of her sin, & miserable State — But at this time gave such an Acc^t of y^e State of her mind & y^e Views she had of Christ & y^e Way of Salvation, & of her hope in him, & the sweet Peace she had enjoy^d y^e night preceeding, from those Words *Mat.11.28*. “Come unto me all y^e y^t labor & are heavy laden, & I will give you rest” — That induced a charitable hope that she had really experienc^d a saving Change — And now signify^d to y^e pastor, that it was her earnest desire, if it might be, to give herself up to God in Covenant, & recieve Baptism, before she died — In consequence of which, the pastor knowing that there had been *precedents* of 2 Cases before in this Chh, of a similar Nature, for Substance, viz, that of *Lydia Cornish* (recorded Page 39 ¹) — & that of *Phebe Clark* — (Page 73 ²) — the Pastor did in her house, in the presence of a Number of this Chh, & some of y^e Congregation, *propound to her the Covenant* (as used in the Admission of Members) to which she *solemnly gave her Consent* — upon which *the Pastor baptiz'd her* — with Prayers &c. She dy'd soon after. — After giving this full Relation, The Chh came to y^e following Votes —

1. That, considering the peculiar Circumstances of y^e Case — this Chh consider that transaction as right, & as comprehending the Essentials of joining her self to the visible Chh of Christ, & that she thereby be View^d in that transaction as uniting with this Chh as a Member.

Vote 2. That in consequence hereof, her Children are entitled to the priviledge of Baptism, in common with all other Members in Communion with this Church. [88] 1794 Church Records continued

Case of N.
Thomas's Wife
rec^d to Com-
munion

Vote 1.

¹ P. [39] of the text, or p. 328 of this volume.

² P. [73] of the text, or p. 368 of this volume.

Febr 12th *Elizabeth Lanman*, widow of *Sam^l Lanman*, late member of y^s Chh dec^d was this day recieved in the Communion in her own house, having been confined by bodily weakness for a great many Years — Her Case, & her Desire, were laid before y^e Chh in Dec^r last, when the Pastor gave a brief Acc^t or relation of her religious Experience as he recieved it from her — upon which y^e Chh Voted that they were satisfy'd to recieve her, as above — Her admission was delay^d to this time, (longer than is usual) from no other Cause than her husband's intervening Sickness & Death, after she was propounded (before y^e Chh only.) — On Occasion of her Admission The Pastor preached to a very full house, & solemn Audience from *Jer. 50.5.* "Come & let us *join ourselves to y^e Lord* in a *perpetual Covenant*, that shall *not be forgotten.*" — We trust y^e Presence of God was there!

March 30th Lords day Evening. Notify^d the *Semiannual Contribution* to be the *next Sabbath*, & the previous Conference of y^e Chh, on *Thursday next* both, agreeable to the Vote of this Chh — See *Pages 76, & 82.*¹

April 3^d Thursday — The Chh met accordingly, in the School house — Convers^d on various things, agreeably to y^e Desires of y^e Meeting

Mem^o. The Precinct, at a Meeting, having chosen a Committee of seven, (thrô the influence & desire of a Number of Men who have, of late, talk'd of a Separation & build^g another Meeting house) to confer with a Co^mittee of this Chh & their Pastor, on *certain Propositions* made by a Number of dissatisfy^d Individuals, relating to the "baptizing the Children of such as have been themselves baptiz'd & not immoral, & professing a Belief of y^e Christian Religion" — with 2 or 3 other Matters, of lesser Importance, as they acknowledged — The Chh accordingly did Vote, & chose seven Members, together with the Pastor, to confer with s^d Co^mittee then appointed by y^e Precinct — viz — The *Pastor*, & our Brethren Deacons *Diman & Crombie, Will^m Watson, James Prince John Cobb, Doct^r Rosseter Cotton & Lemuel Drew.* begun & concluded with Prayer.

Oct^r 2^d The above Co^mittee met, this Evening, with y^e gentlemen chosen by y^e Precinct, who were Mess^{rs} *Joshua Thomas — Deacon Spooner — John Davis John Cotton — & William Le Baron —*

¹ Pp. [76, 82] of the text, or pp. 371, 376, of this volume.

Tho^s Jackson Esq^r another chosen, now dead — & *Sam^l Jackson* absent. — After a lengthy & amicable Conference, it was at length agree'd, that the two Chairmen, Viz the *Pastor*, & Major *Thomas*, be requested to draw up a *form of Admission* into a christian Chh, & *Confession of faith*, & present them at y^e next Meeting of these Committees, for them to deliberate & converse upon

The Object with the Gentlemen abovenamed, appearing to be, to have some Mode adopted by this Chh, of admitting Members, (& having their Offspring baptiz^d) different from that *Covenant* now in Use, which, they say, they can not clearly & conscientiously make. So adj^d y^e Conference a fortnight. [89] 1794 Chh Records continued

Oct^r 19th Lords Day Evening — Notify^d the *Semiannual Contribution* to be *next Sabbath* & the *Chh Conference*, as usual previous to it, to be on on *Thursday next*.

Oct^r 21st The *Committees* of the Chh & Precinct, (mention^d in the foregoing page) met, this Evening, at *Deacon Diman's*; had a long, & free Conference on the Subject of Admission to sealing Ordinances — & the *forms* mention^d before, Page 88.¹ For, it is proper to mention here, that none of the Gentlemen of y^e Prec^t Committee desired or wish'd to have the antient Method of *owning the Corn^t*, revived.

At this Meeting *M^r Thomas*, the Chairman of y^e Precinct's Committee, produced a *Form*, (as was agreed) viz, a *Confession of Faith*, & a *Chh Covenant* — being the same, (as he informed us) that is used in the Chh in *Plimpton* since the Settlement of their *present Pastor*, *Rev^d M^r Samson*, & drawn up by him) To this it was objected, by the Committee of y^e Chh, that the *Confession*, was of so very *general* a Nature, that *any Denomination* of Men call^d christian except *Deists*, could & would readily subscribe such a *Confessⁿ* & *Coven^t*. That it would therefore introduce great Confusion into the Chh, & lay a foundation for sad Dissention, Animosities & Dicord among Brethren of the same Communion, who, being so exceedingly different in their Ideas of what they deem *fundamental Doctrines* of y^e Gospel, cannot maintain that cordial, friendly fellowship, so becoming & necessary in a Christian Chh — for “*How can two walk together, except they be agreed?*” — Particularly, the great & glorious, scriptural Doctrine of the *Divinity* or *true & proper Deity* of our Lord *Jesus Christ*, was

¹ P. [88] of the text, or, pp. 383–384 of this volume.

insisted on, by the *Committee* of this Chh, as a doctrine which this Chh, (as well as others) have, from the beginning, held as a foundation Doctrine of y^e Bible, & which we can never give up, as we view it to be the great Ground of all our hope here, & happiness hereafter — This, therefore, it was much insisted, ought expressly & unreservedly to be acknowledged, by those who wish for Admission into this Chh — to which some of the Precinct's Co^mittee w^d not agree — together with wth *Other* important Doctrines, which, as it appears to us, are equally clearly held up in the *Word of God*, y^e only Rule of our Faith & Practice.

Agreeably to this, The Pastor also, (as was before desired) produced & read a *Form of Confession of Faith, & Chh Covenant* — which he had drawn up, exhibiting a general View of the great *Protestant Doctrines*, call'^d *Calvanistic*, which have been held by *this* & the Protestant Chhes in general, ever since the Reformation from Popery

To *this* form, of Confessⁿ of faith, & Covenant, the *Committee* of *this Chh*, now present, manifested their hearty concurrence, & doubted not it was conformable to y^e Minds of this Chh universally. — But To *the same*, some Gentlemen of y^e *other Co^mittee*, signified, they could not agree, — And thus, after a long & friendly Conversation, (not agreeing in any *particular plan* or Mode, different from that already in use in this Chh) the two Committees, in a friendly manner, broke up, & parted. [90] 1794 Chh Records continued

Oct^r 23^d Thursday. P M, the Church met, according to Notification, (See top of last Page ¹) at the house of *Doct^r Cotton*, & after Prayer, there being a full Meeting, entered on y^e consideration of several Subjects, agreeable to y^e design of y^e Meeting, viz, *Chh Discipline* — And at this time, as was desired, *A Report* of y^e proceedings of the *Chh's Committee*, in their Conference with the *Precincts Co^mittee*, (See two last Pages ²) was given to the Chh — On which, they unanimously manifested & express'd their Approbation of the Conduct of their Committee, on that Occasion — & also of the forms of *Confession of faith & Covenant*,³ exhibited by the Pastor at the afors^d Conference, & which were also now read to the Chh. In special, they unanimously agreed in their Opinion of the Truth & Importance

¹ P. [89] of the text, or p. 384 of this volume.

² Pp. [88–89] of the text, or pp. 383–384 of this volume.

³ This word had been altered.

of that great & fundamental Doctrine of the *Divinity of our blessed Savior Jesus Christ*, & also That they could not, in Conscience, admit any person into our Communion, who was of a *contrary* Opinion, particularly on account of the *practical* tendency of such an Error, in promoting Dissension, & Discord in the Chh, & preventing that cordial fellowship & Love, which ought always to subsist among Brethren of the same Church, "*that there may be no Schism in the Body*" of Christ.

Vote.

The Chh, likewise Voted, that inasmuch as *some Members* of the Congregation, have manifested a Dislike of *Relations* being read publicly, (when persons are propounded to the Church) before the congregation are dismiss'd, (Voted) that this Chh, not willing to retain any, contrary to their minds, on such an Occasion, are willing *that such Relations be read, in future, after the Blessing is given* — Notice being given to the Congregation, of this Change, that those only may stay, who incline.

Voted Also to choose a *Committee* to join with the Pastor, in drawing up a *Confession of faith* for this Chh to deliberate upon, at their next meeting, & see if it be agreeable to them to adopt it, as ¹ their belief ² & to ³ be acknowledged by all who do now belong to, or may hereafter join themselves to, this Chh — for *y^e reasons before mentiond*, to promote Union & fellowship among Brethren in this Church & [91 ⁴] *This Committee* thus chosen, consisted of our Brethren *William Watson* — *Deacon Crombie*, *Deacon Spooner* & *John Cobb*, wth *y^e Pastor*. The greatest Unanimity, & cordial, brotherly Affection were apparent at this meeting, which, as it was begun, so was concluded by Prayer. — May such ever be the Character & *y^e Glory* of this Chh!

1795. March. 22^d Stayed the Chh, Lords day Evening, after public Worship, & from the Consideration of *y^e inconveniency* of having the *Semiannual Contributions* on the Months of *April* & *Oct* (agreeably to *y^e present Custom*, & a Vote past *Jan^y 24th 1792: Page 76th 5*) on Acc^t of the *Fast* in the Spring, & the *Thanksgiving* in the Fall, being usually so near those Months — The Chh

¹ This word has been altered.

² Written above two words, crossed out.

³ This word has been altered.

⁴ At the top of p. [91] is written "1794 & 1795 Continued."

⁵ P. [76] of the text, or p. 371 of this volume.

Voted. 1st To *reconsider* the Votes aboves^d, past in Jan^y 24th 1792. — & then

Voted 2^d That in future, the *Chh Meeting or Conference* on the Subject of Discipline, & also the¹ *Semiannual Contribution*, be in the Months of *June & January*, yearly.

The Pastor then communicated a *Proposal*, from a great Number of Ministers, of² different Denominations, to unite in carrying into Execution, the Late President Edwards's "*Humble Attempt* to promote explicit Agreement & Visible Union of God's people in extraordinary Prayer to God, for the Revival of Religion & Advancement of Christ's Kingdom on Earth agreeable to Scripture Promises & Prophecies concerning the last times — founded on *Zec^b 8.20.21.22*" &c A Part of the first printed *circular Letter* was read to the Church, relating to this Subject — the remaining part, with the 2^d letter, already recieved, (giving account of the Success of the proposed plan, & the Approbation of various *Ministers*, of different Denominations, & *Associations* — *Presbyteries & Synods*, in Various³ parts of the United States) is⁴ reserved, to be communicated, by divine Leave, to the whole Congregation the next Lord's Day. — The Chh having thus a knowledge of y^e general Plan & Design of the *Concert* — Did

Vote 3^d their *unanimous & hearty concurrence* in it — & agreed, according to the Proposal, to meet on the *first Tuesday* of the four Quarters of the year, viz in *January, April, July & October*, at 2 Clock in the *Afternoon*, for *Prayer* & to attend on such religious *Instruction* as may be suited to that Subject & Occasion.

Vote respecting
Quarterly
Meetings

June 17th Agreeably to the Vote of the Chh, (2^d Vote above) altering the time of the Semiannual Meeting or Conference, from April to *June* &c the Chh met this day at the Pastor's house 3 Clock P M, (being notify^d the Sabbath before) & after Prayer to God, [92⁵] conversed on Subjects relative to the Kingdom of Christ & the Peace & Order of this Chh — And the Committee, Chosen at their last Meeting (in *October*. See page 90th 6) to prepare a *Con-*

¹ The words "also the" are written over other words.

² This word has been altered.

³ This word has been altered.

⁴ This word has been altered.

⁵ At the top of p. [92] is written "1795 June 17th Chh Records continued."

⁶ P. [90] of the text, or p. 386 of this volume.

Vote 1.

fession of Faith for the Church's Consideration, & Adoption if they see fit, in Conformity to the Practice of almost all other Churches in the Land, did lay before the Chh, at this time, a short Summary of the principal Articles of the¹ Christian Faith, drawn from the Holy Scriptures — which, after due deliberation & free Conversation thereon, the Chh did *unanimously* Vote to accept and adopt the same, as expressive of their Belief of those great & fundamental doctrines of Religion, as revealed in the Holy Word of God, & that² the same be acknowledged by all who now belong to, or may hereafter join themselves to this Chh, with a View to preserve Order, Unity, Peace & christian Fellowship in this antient Chh — being the *same* Doctrines on which this Chh was at first founded, & which have ever been acknowledged by it, from the days of their Forefathers — as well as by Protestant Churches in general since the Reformation from Popery.

The Confession of Faith, thus adopted, is as follows.

I believe in one only living & true *God*, the great Creator and Governor of all things.

I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, as “*God manifest in y^e flesh*,” who came into the world to seek & save lost Sinners, and who is the only Mediator between God & Man.

I believe in the *Holy Ghost*, who by his *divine* Power doth renew & sanctify the Souls of his People.³

I believe the *Scriptures* of the Old & New Testament to be the *Word of God*, & the only Rule of Faith & Practice.

I believe that “God made Man upright,” but that “being in honor, he abode not,” but fell from a State of Innocency, by transgressing the Law of God — & I believe, that he, thereby lost the Image of God, consisting in Righteousness & true Holiness, & that, in Consequence hereof, the whole human race became subject to that Death which was threatned in the Law, & so, “are by Nature Children of Wrath.”

I believe, therefore, the absolute Necessity of *Regeneration* by the Holy Spirit, & that “Except a Man be born again, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.”

¹ This word has been altered.

² Written over another word.

³ Written over another word.

[93] 1795 Chh Records continued

I believe a Sinner is "*justified* freely by the *Grace of God*, thrô *faith* in Jesus Christ — & that the *Righteousness* wrought out by Christ, by his obedience unto Death, is the only Foundation of a Sinner's Hope.

I believe that a true "Faith is the Gift of God," & that it always purifieth the heart, & is productive of Good Works.

I believe the Necessity of *Evangelical Repentance*, & *New Obedience*, and that "Without Holiness, no man shall see the Lord."

I believe that "the *Righteous*," or *true Believer*, "shall hold on his way," & "shall endure to the End," and that, thrô the Promise of God & the Intercession of Christ, he shall be "kept by the Power of God," & shall never finally fall from a State of Grace but shall *persevere* in holiness, unto Eternal Life, & that "Christ having loved his own, he loveth them unto the End."

I believe "there will be a *Resurrection* of the Dead, both of the Just & the Unjust."

I believe in a *Judgment* to come, & that "Jesus Christ will be the Judge, both of the quick & the Dead."

I believe, that the *Righteous* will, at the *great Day*, be openly acquitted & adjudged to Everlasting Life. — And

I believe that the *Wicked* will, at that Day, be sentenced to "Everlasting Destruction from the presence of the Lord & the Glory of his Power." Amen.

Voted, 2^d The Church then Voted unanimously, that, at some proper Time, shortly, (when there shall be a prospect of the Members being able to attend as universally as may be) the Members of this Chh will publicly, in a solemn Manner, declare their Assent to the above Confession of Faith, as expressive of their Sense of the Holy Scriptures, relative to the articles herein mentioned. — At the same time —

Voted. 3. The Chh voted also, that, agreeably to the frequent Practice of this antient Chh, in former times, this Chh will, on the same Occasion, in a publick & solemn Manner, openly *renew their Covenant with God & one another* — hoping it may be a means of animating & exerting one another to walk more, as becometh Saints, & agreeably to the solemn Vows of God that lie upon us.

The utmost harmony & Unanimity prevailed in all our Delibera-

tions & Acts, at this Meeting — which was concluded (as it was begun) with Prayer. See *Page 186*¹

[94] An Account of y^e *Deaths* in this Town, beginning with the year 1760 — in January — on the 30th of w^{ch} Month I was ordained.

C. ROBBINS .

1760

Jan ^r	4 th	Joanna Howland
	8 th	Ichab ^d Holme's Child
Feb	2 ^d	Elizabeth Curtiss
Ap ^l	7 th	Sam ^l Shermans Child
	12	Benj ^a Barnes
	23	Sarah Little, Widow of Rev ^d M ^r Little form ^r Pastor here
	23 ^d	Benj ^a Bartlett
	24	Eben ^r 2 Silvesters Child
May	7 th	{ Mary Little & John Nelsons Child
	24 th	{ Barnabas Churchill Eben ^r Donham Jun ^{rs} Child
		An Ind ⁿ Child of Seth Barns
June	6 th	Jonath ⁿ Church ^l 3 Child
	11 th	Negro Girl of Th ^s Spoon ^r Jun ^r
	14 th	Ebenez ^r Spooners Son
	15	Jonathan Eames
	19 th	Lois Holmes
	23 ^d	William Drew
	25 th	Sam ^{ll} Kemptons Wife
	29	Mary King
July	7 th	Rob ^t Hosea's Child
	8 th	Sam ^l Sherman's Wife
	22	Eph ^m Holme's Child
	28	Nath ^l Torrey's Child
Aug ^t	3 ^d	Jabez Cobb's Child
	5	Richard Durfy ^s Child
	6	Cornel ^s Holmes Jun ^{rs} Child
	7	Jn ^o Goddards Child
	9	Jerem ^h Holme's Child
		A Negro at Cap ^t Jacks ^{ns} fr Bost
	11 th	John Goddard's Child
	12	Eben ^r Churchills Child
	15	John Kemptons Child
	15	W ^m Westons Child
	23	Eben ^r Church ^{ll} Jun ^{rs} Child
	25	Benj. Mortons Child

¹ P. [186] of the text, or p. 486 of these volumes.

² This name is badly blotted.

³ This name is badly blotted.

1760. on January 1 on the 30th of March 1760. C. Robbins

1760.

Jan. 2nd Joanna Howland.
... 8th Schab. Holmes' Child.
Feb. 2. Elizabeth Currier.
Mar. 7th Sam. Sherman's Child.
... 12. Betsy a Barnard.
... 23. Glorah Little, widow of
Wm. Little from Salisbury.
... 24. Betsy a Bartlett.
... 24. Mary a Liberton's Child.
May. 7th Mary Little's
John Nelson's Child.
... 14. Barnabas Churchill.
... 14. Benjamin from Norfolk.
... Ben. D. Child of the Barnes.
June 6. Jonathan Church's Child.
... 11th Negro Girl of the Spoon.
14th Henry Spooner's Son.
15. Jonathan Barnes.
19th Lois Holmes.
23. William Drew.
25th Sam. Meniston's Wife.

1760. 1760.
Oct. 15. Toby, a Negro Man.
... 19. Zephaniah Mortons.
Nov. 10. Levi Drew's Child.
Dec. 21. Gerstern Holmes' Wife.
Dec. 3. Thomas Ward, a Stranger.
... 4. Ebenezer Holmes.
... 7th John Cooper's.
... 10th Isaac Kings' Wife.
... 18. Samuel Barnes' Child.
... 21. Willm. Bonham (same man).
Jan. 22. Cap. Gabe's Sheriff.
... 28. Ben. Nelson's Child.
... 31. Leonard Drew.
Feb. 16. Sam. West of Small Port.
Mar. 7th Dennis Army's Wife's Child.
... 20. Henry Barnes' Child.
... 26. Samuel Donham.
... 28. Negro Child of Dear's Fort.
Apr. 18. The Spooner's Child.
... 27. Schab. Holmes' Indian boy.
May. 14. Rebecca Eastell.
... 18. Dot. Joseph de Barton.
... 19. Cap. Josiah Mortons.

March 22. 1762. 3rd.
April 14. Experience's Child.
... 20th Capt. Wm. Killings' Wife.
May 27. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
June 18. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
July 14. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
... 28. Barnab. Churchill's Child.
Aug. 14. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
... 27. John Cobb.
... 28. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
... 30. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
Oct. 27. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
... 27. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
... 30. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
Nov. 13. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
Dec. 21. 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
... 20th 1762. 1762. 1762. 1762.
1763.
Jan. 21. 1763. 1763. 1763. 1763.
Feb. 19. 1763. 1763. 1763. 1763.
... 24. 1763. 1763. 1763. 1763.
March 1. 1763. 1763. 1763. 1763.
... 5th 1763. 1763. 1763. 1763.
... 14. 1763. 1763. 1763. 1763.

	26	Seled Lander's Child
	30	Amos Donham's Child
Sep ^t	4	Dennis Sturmy's Child
	7	Cap ^t Hammatts Child
	8	Jos. Ryder Jun ^{rs} Child
	9	Eben ^r Churchills Child
	13	John May's Child
	19	Hezek ^h Tinkam's ¹ Child
	19	Jn ^o Withrells Child
	21	Isaac Doten's Child
Oct ^r	7 th	Josiah Morton Jun ^{rs} Child
	8	Jn ^o Washburn's Child
D ^o		Jn ^o Churchills Widow
	10	Solomon Atwoods Child
	13.	John Jones's Child

1760 & 1761²

Oct ^r	15	Toby, a Negro Man
	19	Zephaniah Morton
Nov ^r	10	Levi Drews Child
	21 st	Gershom Holmes' Wife
Dec ^r	3 ^d	Thomas Ward, a Stranger
	4	Ebenezer Holmes
	7 th	John Cooper
	10 th	Isaac Kings Wife
	18	Lemuel Barne's Child
	21	Will ^m Donham (lame Man)

62

1761

Jan ^r	22 ^d	Cap ^t Jabez Shurtleff
	28	Eben ^r Nelsons Child
	31	Joanna Drew
Feb ^r	16 th	Sam ^l West of <i>Small Pox</i>
Mar.	7 th	Dennis Sturmy ^s Wife <i>Smallpox</i>
	D ^o	Wid ^o Mercy Barnes' Child
	26	Samuel Donham
	D ^o	Negro Child of Deac ⁿ Foster
Ap ^l	18	Tho ^s Spooner Jun ^{rs} Child
	27	Ichab ^d Holmes's Indian boy
May	14	Rebecca Easdell
	18	Doc ^t Joseph Le Baron
	19	Cap ^t Josiah Morton
	21	Josiah Whittemores Child
June	8 th	Job Cobb
N. B:	11 th	Rev ^d Nathan ^l Leonard at Nort ⁿ late Pastor of this Church
June	12	Ichabod Bartletts Child

¹ The first three letters in this name are blotted.² The second column begins here.

June	15	Elizabeth Holmes maiden
	27	Doct ^r Thomas's Child Still born
	29 th	John Lothrop
	30 th	Wid ^o of Thomas Holmes
July	20	Nath ^l Torrey's Child
Aug ^t	17	Ichab ^d Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Child
	21 st	John May's Child
	30 th	Sam ^l Kemptons Negro
Sep ^t	4 th	Edward Lanman's Child
	5 th	Ebenez ^r Samson's Child
	22 ^d	Hezekiah Tinkams Child
	26	Thomas Davy's Wife
Oct ^r	17 th	John Hall drowned fr. Cap ^t Dotys brig
Nov	7 th	Zach ^s Churchills Child
Dec	2 ^d	Joseph Sylvest ^{rs} Child
	5 th	Nath ^l Goodwins Child
	11 th	General <i>Whittemore</i> drowned at Saquish
	12 th	Sue Peage an Indian
	21	Job Morton suddenly in bed

36

1762

Jan ^y	11	A Stranger found Dead on beech Point
	18 th	Cap ^t Barnabas Hedge
Feb	24	Nath ^l Holmes's Child
	28	Wid ^o Sarah Shurtleff
March	4 th	Cap ^t Fulgham's Child
	14 th	Tho ^s Hinckleys Child
	16	Sam ^l Marshalls Child

1762 3 & 4 ¹

March	22 ^d	Seth Barnes
April	14	Experience Atwood
	20 th	Cap ^t Jn ^o Billings of Bost ^a
May	27	Wid ^o Eliz ^a Tinkham
June	28	Co ^l Watsons Child Anon ^s
July	4 th	Cap ^t Sam ^{ll} Harlow's Wife
	28	Barnab ^s Churchills Child
Aug ^t	6 th	Sam ^l Barrows Child
	7 th	John Cobb
	8 th	Benj ^a Bartletts Child
	21 st	Benj ^a Mortons Child
	30 th	Charles Morton's Child
Oct ^r	27	Tho ^s Spoon ^r Jun ^{rs} Wife
	27	Mathew LeMote
	30	Jn ^o Atwood's Wife
Nov ^r	3 ^d	Corban Barn's Wife

¹ The third column begins here.

Dec^r 19th M^r Thomas Spooner Etat: 68
 20th Tim^o Burbank Jun^{rs} Wife

25

1763

1763

Jan^r 21 M^r Josh^a Bramhall
 Feb^r 19 Samuel Marshall
 24 Cap^t Jn^o Douglass
 March 1 Asa Beal's Wife, Rhoda
 5th John King's Wife
 14 Hannah Cooper, Jn^{os} Wid^w
 24 Cap^t Josiah Mort^{ns} Wid^w
 30 Doc^t LeBarons Negr^o Child
 Ap^l 2^d Sam^l Clark Aged 76
 12th James Howard
 May 29 Levi Drew's ¹ Child
 June 29 Wid^w Hannah Jackson 82
 July 6th Deacⁿ Torreys Child
 31 Sam^l Jacksons Child
 Aug^t 19 Eben^t Ryders Child
 25 Rev^d Alex^d Cumming of Bostⁿ Pastor of y^e Old South Aged 37
 Sep^t 6 Benj. Bartletts Child
 12 Nath^l Donham Sadler
 16 A French Man
 18 Patience Harlow
 29 Tho^s Silvesters Wife
 30 Elisha Mortons Child
 Oct^r 5 Th^s Trasks Child
 15 Barn^s Hedge's Child
 19 Esq^r Winslow's Negr. Child
 20 Wid^o Eleanor Holmes 84
 28 Wife ² of Eleaz^r Stephens ³
 Nov^r 15 Widow Mercy Tinkam
 Dec^r 9th Abigail Hedge Maidⁿ
 29 James Thomas's Child

29

1764

1764

Feb^r 3^d Elkanah Churchill
 27 Rich^d Kimbal's Child
 Mar: 29 Th^s Spooner's Child
 Apr^l 2^d Eph^m Spooner's Child
 6th Nicolas Sever Esq^r Kingston 86
 21 Benj. Barne's Child

¹ This name is obscure.

² Apparently altered from "Wid^w."

³ Here "84" is crossed out.

May	22 ^d	Eliz ^a Quaytes Child
June	1	Thomas Rogers
	D ^o	Robert Finney
	7 th	Pomp. M ^r Brown's Neg ^r boy
	13	Cap ^t Joseph Fulgham
	24	Will ^m Westons Child
July	7	W ^m Thomas of Middlboro kill ^d by a Cart

[95] 1764 5 & 6 Account of Deaths continued

1764

July	16 th	Silvan ^s Howe's Child
Aug ^t	6 th	Benj ^a Cole w th Small pox
Sep ^r	8 th	Tho ^s Savery Jun ^{rs} Child
	14	Co ^{ll} Watsons Child
Oct ^r	3 ^d	Ichab ^d Bartlett's Child
	6 th	Silv ^s Arre drown ^d at Saquisb
	6 th	Jn ^o Sturtevant of Ponds
	10 th	Tho ^s Rogers' Widow
	16	Will ^m Rickards Child
Nov ^r	11	Benj ^a Mortons Child
	16	Zach ^s Churchills Child
Dec ^r	1 st	Tho ^s Norrington Baker
	7 th	Nathan Ward Aged 95

26

1765

Jan ^{ry}	30 th	Benj ^a Warrens Child Still born
Feb ^r	11	Joanna Ward's Child
Mar:	1 st	Kate Wid ^o Murdochs Negro
	11	Tho ^s Trasks Child
	12	Abig ^l Bartlett Wid ^o of Tho ^s
	28	Andrew Thomson's Ind ⁿ Child
	19	Abner Sylvesters Son
Ap ^l	6 th	John Morton of Eelriver
	27	Margret Eames Wid ^w
May	6	Wid ^o Sarah Holmes
	16	Th ^s Robinsons Child Anon ^s
	23	Jonathan Ward
	27	Bristol David Turner's Negro
June	6 th	Eben ^r Gorham's Negro Child
	7 th	Hope Gorham
	29 th	M ^{rs} Fulgham's Child
July	1 st	Silvan ^s Bartletts Child
	11	Joanna Wards Child
Aug ^t	25	Cap ^t Ep ^m Gould's Child
Sep ^t	24	Silv ^s Howe's Child
	30	Mary Clark Wid ^o Aged 74
Nov ^r	5	Zeph ^a Holmes Jun ^{rs} Child

	24	Deac ⁿ Foster's Negro Child
	26	Benj ^a Churchills Child
Dec ^r	1 st	John Cobb's Wife
	9 th	Charles Morton's Wife
		26

1766

Jan ^r	1 st	Jonath ⁿ Diman's Negro
	4 th	Hannah Jackson Sam ^{ls} Widow
	D ^o	Prudence Weston Wid ^o
	11 th	Barzillai Stetson
	21 st	David Turner's Wife Rebecca
Feb ^y	12 th	Rebecca Peake
	4	Elijah Daman's Child
March	19 th	John Faunce aged 87
	22 ^d	Simeon Samson's Child
Ap ^l	17 th	Sam ^l Kempton 85
	25	Isaac King 75
May	10	Jabez Harlow's Child
	18	Jin Molatto of Cap ^t White
June	14	Nath ^l Leonards Child
	19	Ebenezer Robbins's Child
	21.	Deac ⁿ Foster's Child Susa
	24 th	John Goddards Child
	26	Alex ^{dr} Robinson's Child
July	6 th	Nat ^l Leonards Child
	9 th	Eben ^r Fuller's Child
	14	Nath ^l Goodwins Child

1766 ¹

July	17 th	Hannah Robbins Daugh ^t of Rev ^d Chandler Robbins
	28 th	Robert Hosea's Child
Aug ^t	5	Sarah Bartlett's Child
	7 th	Thomas Mayhew's Child
	18 th	Tho ^s Faunce's Child
	19	Lem ^l Fish's Child
	20	Benj ^a Barne's Child
	20 th	William Rickard
	21	Tho ^s Mortons Child
	30	Tho ^s Faunce's Child
	31	W ^m Sergeant's Child
Sep ^t	17	James Shurtleff aged 70
	25	Doc ^t Le Baron's Negr ^o Child
Oct ^r	14	Tho ^s Davis's Child
	20	Wid ^w Joanna Clark
	24	John Russell's Child
	31	Sarah King

¹ The second column begins here.

Nov ^r	28	Paul Doten's Child	
Dec ^r	5 th	Abigail Ryder 66	
	13	Simeon Samsons Child	
	17	Wid ^o Mary Rider 81	
	29 th ¹	Josiah Waterman's Wife	
	29	Joseph Rider aged 94	
	30	Eleazar Stephen's Wife	45
			1767
Jan ^r	15	Josiah Doten	
	15 th	Cap ^t James Curtiss	
	19	Wid ^o Hannah Doten Elisha's	
	25	Wid ^o Sarah Spoon ^r (Tho ^{ss}) Aged 73	
Feb ^r	1	Josiah Johnson's Wife	
	2 ^d	Andrew Crosswells Child	
	3 ^d	Elizabeth Hill	
	19 th	Eliz ^a Watson Co ^{l's} Wife	
	26	Deac ⁿ Nath ^l Warren	
Mar.	3 ^d	Rev ^d Ch ^r Robbins' Child Geo	
	13	Josiah Waterman's Child	
Ap ^l	3 ^d	Wid ^o Han: Barne's Child	
	17	Eph ^m Spoon ^{rs} Child	
	20 th	Elk ^a Watson's Wife Pat ^{ce}	
	28	Cap ^t Jn ^o Stevenson	
May	4	Jn ^o Waterman's Wife 54	
	23 ^d	Will ^m Donham's Wife	
June	12 th	Th ^s Jackson Jun ^{rs} Child	
	D ^o	Rich ^d Durfy's Child	
	17 th	Cap ^t Sam ^l Harlow	
	18	Nicolas Drew's Wife	
	29	Moses Readings Child	
July	4 th	Josiah Torrey a lad kill ^d by a Cart	
Aug ^t	4	Cap ^t James Nicolson 64	
	9	Abr ^m Tisdell's Child	
	23	Silv ^s Harlows Child	
Sep ^t	3 ^d	Perez Tilson	
Oct ^r	8	Sam ^l Jacksons Child	
	11	Isaac Morton's Child anon ^a	
	11 th	Ichabod Bartlett Aged 74	
	26	W ^m Savery's Child	
	29	James House in Goal	
Nov ^r	1	Isaac Symmes Child	
	16	Eben ^r Donham's Wife	
	29	Eben. ² Riders Child	
Dec ^r	23 ^d	John Bartlett's Wife drowned herself in a hogsh ^d of Water being depriv ^d of Reason	

¹ Altered from "28" or perhaps "28" altered from "29."² Perhaps "Elem."

1768

Jan^r 16 Barn^s Donham's Child

1768 ¹

Jan^r 25 Wid^o Hannah Faunce Aged 63

Feb^r 6th Cap^t Hezek^h Jackson

20 Mary Norrington

27 Wid^o Ruth Stetson

Mar. 13 John Bacon's Child

22^d Eliz: Quite's Child

29 Benj^a Drew's Child

Ap^l 23 Mercy Stephen's Aged 71

28 Th^s Howard's Child anon^s

March 7 Wid^o Susan^a Bartlett 66

May 15 Eliz^a Morton ² Aged 83

22 John Washburn 69

27 Wid^o Rebecca Cole 64

June 6 Sam^l Sherman's Child

10th Will^m Torrey at Scituate

11 Eben^r Fuller's Wife

21	{ Th ^s Spoon ^r Son to Thom ^s Rous Bourn & Zattu ³ Cushing	} all drown ^d at Saquish
----	---	--

July 11th Daniel Dimans Wife

Aug^t 16 Amos Donham's Wife

30 Oliv^r Kemptons Child

Sep^r 10 Eben^r Holmes' Child

Oct^r 12 Tho^s Torrey's Child

28 Isaac Mackay's Child

Nov^r 21 Bartlett LeBaron's Child Son

27th Rev^d Ward Cotton form^r Min^r of Hampton drop^d down dead
going to Meeting on Sabb. A M.

Dec^r 5th Elizabeth Fisher

15th Robert Bartlett's Wife

20th Eben^r Harlow's Child

21 Deacon Torrey's Child anon^s

21 Wid^o Sarah Nelson suddenly

27 James Lenman. Aged 76. The memory of y^e Just is blessed
N^o 34 ⁴

1769

Jan^r 19th David Turner Aged 76

31 William Westons ⁵ Child

¹ The third column begins here.

² Here a word, perhaps "wid^w," has been interlined and crossed out.

³ Perhaps "Zatter."

⁴ This figure has been altered.

⁵ Apparently altered from "Watsons."

Feb	16	Joseph Fulgham a Lad
	18	W ^m Lucas's Wife 78
Mar.	11	Ephraim Holmes 50
	25	Sam ^{ll} Bartlett Esq ^r 71
Ap ^l	27	Eph ^m Spooner ^{rs} Child Anon ^s
May	16	Zach ^s Holmes <i>drown^d</i>
	24	Tho ^s Watsons Child
June	22 ^d	Rev ^d Jos. Sewall Boston 81
July	18	Joseph Bent's Child
	25	Eleazar Rogers at Sea
	27	W ^m Hall Jacksons Child
Aug ^t	3 ^d	Doct ^r W ^m Thomas's Wife
	6	Tho ^s Farmer's Child
	14	Wid ^w Jerusha Marshall
	24	Nath ^l Shurtleffs Child ¹
	26	Sam ^{ll} Sherman's Wife Betty
	28	Sam ^l Marson a Stranger
Sep ^t	4	John May 48 ²
	17	Exp ^{ce} Harlow Jabez's Daught ^r
	20	Jn ^o Waterman's Daught ^r
	D ^o	James Stells ³ an Indian
	27	Brace ⁴ Jones
Oct ^r	7	Jn ^o Washburns Child
	10	Jos. Bents Child

[96] Account of Deaths continued

1769

Oct ^r	16	Rich ^d Durfy's Wife
	25	Jn ^o Holmes's Negro Girl
	28	Eben ^r Churchills Wife
Nov ^r	4 th	Barzillai Stetson's Child
	20	Rich ^d Durfy's Child
Dec ^r	4 th	Eph ^m Spooners Child
	11	Geo. Bachellor of Marbleh ^d
	25	Judah Bartlett's Child
	26	Geo: Holmes's Child

35

1770

Jan ^y	2 ^d	Alexand ^r Dow's Wife
	14 th	Joseph Bents Child
	17 th	Alex. Dow's Child
	26	Rebecca Warren W ^{ms} Wife

¹ Here "Daughter" is crossed out.² Here follows some shorthand.³ This name is obscure.⁴ This name is obscure.

Feb.	8 th	Rebecca Sherman
	18	Wid ^w Donham Eleaz ^{rs}
	23	Sarah Kempton Jn ^o Daugh ^r
Mar.	4 th	Josiah Mortons Daug ^r
	4	Philip Washb ^{ns} Child
	19	Widow Sarah Barn's Seth's
Ap ^l	6	W ^m Savery's Child
	7 th	Widow Abigail Faunce
May	7 th	Cap ^t Isaac Doten 61
	12 th	Sol ^o Silvesters Child
	20	Bathsheba May Jn ^{os} Wid ^o
	29	Hannah Potter Wid ^o
June	2 ^d	James Stells Wife
	14	Sam ^l Morton's Wife
July	17 th	John Harlows Wife
Aug ^t	3 ^d	Joseph Warren
	24	Lem ^l Harlow's Child
	30	Nanny Negro Woman
Sep ^r	1	W ^m Crombie's Child
	5	Oliv ^r Kemptons Child
	8 th	Seth Morton's Child
	8 th	Tho ^s Withrells Child
	15	John Jone's Child
	15	Sim ⁿ Samsons Child Anon ^s
	16	Barn ^s Churchills Wife
	18	Jn ^o Roger's Child
	20	Wid ^o Abig ^l Thomas Son John
	21	Deac ⁿ Jn ^o Torrey's Child
Oct ^r	2 ^d	Rich ^d Durfy's Child
	10	James Thomas's Child
	25	Sam ^l Pearce's Child
Nov ^r	1	Wid ^o Esther Warren 89
Dec ^r	12	Mercy Warren Jos' Widow
	24	Eph ^m Kempton
	D ^o	Wid: Rebecca Jacks ⁿ 74
	27	Isaac MacKay's Child

40

1771		1771
Jan ^r	21 st	Eben ^r Donham 73
	24 th	Tho ^s Torrey's Child
	27 th	Tim ^o Burbank's Wife 63
	31	Jn ^o Harlow 86
Feb ^r	5	Jn ^o Totmans Wife
	13	W ^m Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Child
	23	James Hovey Esq ^{rs} Wife Lyd ^a
Mar.	7 th	Caleb Riders Child
Ap ^l	26	Tho ^s Davy's Child
May	1	Ep ^m Holmes Child

	23	Nath ^l Goodwin
	23	W ^m Poldens Child
June	9	Elijah Harlows Ch ^d
	13	W ^m Pold ^{ns} Child
D ^o		Nat. Holmes Ch ^d
	15	Isaac Bartletts Child

1771 & 1772 ¹

July	6 th	Melatiah Lothrop
	19	Jos. Burbanks Child
Aug ^t	5	Th ^s Spooners Child
	18	Geo. Bramhalls Ch ^d
	19	Th ^s Totman a Lad by a fall from a Cart
	21	Rev ^d Chand ^r Robbins' Child Deborah
	26	Eleaz ^r Churchill Jun ^{rs} Ch ^d
	27	Benj. Drew's Child
Sep ^t	1	Dan ^l Dimans Child
	10	Joshua Shaw's Child
	25	Dan ^l Hoseas Child
	27	Wid. Eliz. Clark
Oct.	10	Barn ^s Donh ^{ms} Ch ^d Anon
Nov ^r	27	Jn ^o Coop ^{rs} Child
	30	Jacob Decost's Child
Dec ^r	1	Lem ^l Cobbs Ch ^d
	1	Rich ^d Holmes's Ch ^d
	17	Geo. LeMotes Ch ^d
	19	David Lothrop's Ch ^d
	23	Anna Campbell at Co ^l Warrens

36

1772

Jan ^r	2 ^d	Sol ^o Bartletts Daught ^r
	3 ^r	Ebenz ^r ² Harlows Child
	9 th	Jn ^o Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Ch ^d
	16	Th ^s Whittemore drown ^d
	20	Wid. Mercy Harlow sudd ⁿ ly
Feb.	7	So ^l Bartletts Child
	9	Exp ^{ce} Rich Walter's Wife
Ap ^l	2 ^d	Sarah Marston Maid ⁿ
	6	Ichab ^d Bartletts Ch ^d
	10	Hannah Wilds 75
	17	Sam ^l Pearce's Ch ^d
	25	Abigail Hatch
May	5	Nath ^l Goodwins Ch ^d
	12	Eben ^r Robins's Child

¹ This begins the second column.² Apparently altered from "Eleaz^r."

June	18	Oliv ^r Kempt ^{ns} Ch ^d .
	22	Rob ^t Bartletts Wife Jane
	29	W ^m Rider
July	15 ¹	Benj. Smiths Ch ^d
	24	James Drew's Ch ^d
	27	Elkan ^h Church ^{l's} Daug ^r
Aug ^t	1 st	Jonno Negro Man
	8	Jos: Bartletts Ch ^d
	10	James Poldains ² Ch ^d
Sep ^r	1	Jn ^o Howards Daugh ^r
	7	Jn ^o Russells Child Jenny
	9	Ichab ^d Shaws Ch ^d
	9 th	Jn ^o Atwood drowned
	13	Moses Readings Ch ^d
Oct ^r	14	Nat. Barne's Wife
	17	Ellis Churchills Wife
	22	Rob ^t Hoseas Ch ^d Anon ^s
	8	Isaac Mackys Ch ^d
	13	Eben ^r Wards Wife
Nov ^r	17	Eben ^r Holmes Child
	13	Jesse Churchills Ch ^d
	D ^o	Benj ^a Barns Ch ^d
	17	Rev ^d Jacob Bacon's Wife
	18	Jn ^o Church ^l 3 ^{ds} Wife
Dec ^r	26	Jane Allen
	12	Eben ^r Sylvest ^{rs} Wife

1772 1773 ³

Dec ^r	17 th	Joanna Holmes Aged 77
	26	Jn ^o Fuller's Child

42

1773

Jan ^y	7 th	Cap ^t Waits Wife sudd ⁿ 71
	22	Will ^m Sutton's Child
Feb.	2 ^d	W ^m Straffens ⁴ Ch ^d
	6	Eph ^m Holmes Ch ^d
	6	John Bartlett 77
	17	Silva Doc ^t LeB ^{ns} Negro
	24	Asa Beal 84
	28	Lydia Pege Ind ⁿ
Mar.	7 th	Rev ^d Ch. Robbins's Ch ^d Anon ^s
	8	Cap ^t Jabez Harlow
	17	Dan ^l Hosea's Wife

¹ Altered from "25."² This name is uncertain.³ This begins the third column.⁴ This name is uncertain.

	26	Jos. Bartlett Jun ^r Ch ^d
	30	Cap ^t Rich ^d Wait 78
Ap ^l	5	Walter Rich
	16	Doct ^r Tho ^s 's Negro Cuff
May	17	Jn ^o Kempton Jun ^{rs} Ch ^d
	23	Ep ^m Bartletts Ch ^d
	29	Eleaz ^r Church ^{l's} Wife
June	5 th	Thankful Ryder
	16	Th ^s Hackmen's Ch ^d
	20.	Rich ^d Holmes Ch ^d anon
Aug ^t	2 ^d	James Thom ^{ss} Ch ^d
	5	Ichabod Tinkh ^{ms} Ch ^d
	7	Joanna Shurtleff
	11 th	Deacon Cornelius Holmes 77
	15	Silv ^s Howe's Daug ^r
	21	Rich ^d Fuller's Ch ^d
	25 ¹	Jn ^o Bishops Ch ^d
	30	Andrew Croswells Wife
Sep ^r	2 ^d	Doc ^t Laz ^s LeBaron 75
	6	Geo. Donhams Ch ^d
	11	Zach ^s Curtiss
	13	Eph ^m Bartlett's Wife
	25	Eleaz ^r Ch ^{l's} Jun ^r Child
Oct ^r	1	Isaac Symm's Wife
	2 ^d	Jn ^o Donham's Ch ^d
	24	Rich ^d Nuttings Ch ^d
	29	Jn ^o Donh ^{ms} Child
Nov ^r	5	Jn ^o Watsons Child
	10	Sol ^o Atwoods Wife found drown ^d in a Pond
	14	Lydia Bartlett
	16	W ^m Savery's Child
	D ^o	W ^m Green's Child
Dec ^r	8	Jn ^o Harlow Jun ^{rs} Ch ^d
	10	David ² Turner's Child
	12	Sol ^o Bartletts Wife
	16	Lem ^l Godd ^{ds} Ch ^d
	29	Rev ^d Ch. Robbins Ch ^d twin

48

1774

Jan ^r	1 st	Deac ⁿ Torrey's Wife
	3 ^d	Jn ^o Bishops Child
	5 th	Rev ^d C. Robbins Child Twin
	9	Nath ^l Cole Smallpox
	12	Jn ^o Bishops Child
Mar	5	Jonath ⁿ Samsons Wife

¹ Altered from "15."² This name has been altered.

[97] 1774 & 1775 An Account of Deaths continued

Mar.	24 th	Zephaniah Holmes
	26	John King
Ap ^l	2 ^d	Jno Faunce's Wife
	5	Benj ^a Goddard
	(17	General Winslow 71)
	18	Rufus Robbins's Child
May	14	Rebecca Morton Nath ^l Wife
	D ^o	Jn ^o Faunce's Child
June	2 ^d	Mary Hovey Wife of James Esq ^r
	21 st	A Child fr. a Brig in y ^e harb ^r
	23 ^d	Cap ^t Abr ^m Hammatt
July	9 th	Nath ^l Torrey's Wife ¹
	18	Mary More
	23	Patience Howland
Aug ^t	13	W ^m Hall Jacksons Wife
Sep ^r	1	Is ^o Macky's Ch ^d
	7	Jn ^o Butt a Stranger
	10	James Poldens Ch ^d
	12	James Thom ^{ss} Ch ^d
	25	Wid ^w Mary Shurtleff 81
Oct ^r	15	Rich ^d Coopers Ch ^d
	17	Eben ^r Bartletts Wife
	D ^o	Jn ^o Fosters Ch ^d
	18	Jane Adams of Boston
Nov ^r	19	Widow Fobes
	D ^o	Steph ⁿ Samsons Ch ^d
	20	Jn ^o Atwoods Ch ^d
	20	James Saverys Ch ^d Anon
	29	Elizabeth Lee
Dec ^r	24	Eben ^r Tinkam
	29	Margret Eames' Ch ^d

37

1775

Jan ^r	11	Ruth Howland Aged 66
	12	Geo. LeMotes Wife Kath ⁿ
	14	Sam ^l Bryants Ch ^d
	21	Rob ^t Brown Esq ^r 96
	23 ^{d 2}	Rev ^d Ch ^r Robbins Ch ^d Anon ^e
Feb ^y	3 ^{d 3}	Eben ^r Nelsons Ch ^d
	20	Eleaz ^r Ch ^{ll} Jun ^{rs} Wife
	22 ^d	Ichabod Tinkam
	26	Josi. Mortons Daugh ^r Martha
Ap ^l	3 ^d	Nicolas Spinks Wife

¹ Here follows some shorthand.² Altered from "22."³ This date has apparently been altered.

	4	Sol ^o Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Ch ^d
	11	Lyd ^a Curtiss Zach ^s Wid ^o
	25	Nehem ^h Ripley 75
May	3	Martha Curtiss 82
	7 th	Nath ^l Cobbs Ch ^d
	15	Abiel Morton
	28	Barn ^s Donh ^{ms} Ch ^d
	31	Jn ^o Harlow Jun ^r
June	6	Tho ^s Hackman's Wife
	12	Jos: Rid ^r y ^e 3 ^{ds} Child
	23 ^d	Sam ^l Harlows Ch ^d
July	10	Cap ^t Th ^s Jackson 72
	D ^o	Geo. Lewis's Ch ^d
	11	Eliz ^a Highton
	15	Rich ^d Durfy's Ch ^d
	22 ^d	Wid ^o Else Barns 75
Aug ^t	3 ^d	Josi. Mortons Daug ^r
	9	Stephen Pains Ch ^d
	21	Priscilla Fost ^r Tho ^s Daug ^r
	28	Joshua Spooner Soldier
	29	Lyd ^a Goddard
Sep ^t	4	James Watermans Ch ^d
	5	Levi Harlows Child

1775 & 1776 ¹

Sep ^r	6 th	Ephraim Cobb
	D ^o	Sam ^l Glover
	D ^o	Tho ^s Finney's Child
	8	Jn ^o Jone's Ch ^d
	9	Tho ^s Finney's Child
	10	Steph ⁿ Samsons Ch ^d
	12	Silvanus Harlows Ch ^d
	13	Moses Readings Ch ^d
	D ^o	Benj ^a Balstons Ch ^d
	17	Wid ^o Thankf ^l Williams Ch ^d
	19	Elk ^a Dilano
	24	Ep ^m Spooner's Ch ^d
	27	Elk ^a Churchill & his Son Elk ^a Jun ^r drown ^d by y ^e beech
	27	Jos. Treble's Ch ^d
	28	Jn ^o Howards Ch ^d
	D ^o	Jos. Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Ch ^d
Oct ^r	1	Eben ^r Holmes' Ch ^d
	3	James Howards Ch ^d
	4 th	David Turner by a broken leg
	D ^o	Isaac Symm's Child
	9	Jn ^o Nelson's Wife
	10	Reuben Washburn
	12	Tho ^s Faunce's Daug ^r

¹ This begins the second column.

	14	David Drew's Ch ^d
	17	Elizab th Pearce 75
	18	Joanna Lenman 83
	19	Deborah Turner's Ch ^d
	20	William Savery
	D ^o	Seth Harlow's Son
	D ^o	Eliz ^a Jackson Nath ^{ls} Wife
	23	Joshua Wood Smallpox
	27	Jon ^a Holmes' Son
	29	M ^r Hunts Ch ^d
Nov ^r	1	Pelham Winslows Ch ^d
	8	Sam ^l Drew's Ch ^d
	10	Nath ^l Shurtleffs Daug ^r
	15	Moses Readings Wife
	17	Will ^m LeBaron's Child
	21	Sam ^l Harlow's Child
	D ^o	Geo. Hugens a Soldier
	22 ^d	Ansel Holmes' Ch ^d
	25	Jn ^o Fuller's Child
	D ^o	Wid ^o Meriah Washb ^{ns} Son
	26	Nath ^l Shurtleff s Wife
Dec ^r	2 ^d	Mary Nicolson Burnt &c.
	7	Jos. Crosswells Ch ^d
	11	Meriah Washburns Ch ^d
	19	Frances LeBaron Maiden
	22	W ^m Watson's Negro Child
	25	W ^m Harlow Ju ^{rs} Ch ^d
		84
		1776
Jan ^y	8 th	W ^m Barne's Child
	11	Tho ^s Polden
	11	Nath ^{ll} Shurtleff Jun ^r
	12	Rev ^d Ch. Robbins' Ch ^d Anon ^s
		James Doten Jun ^{rs} Ch ^d
	26	Wid ^o Reb. Riders Daug ^r
	27	Eben ^r Donham's Ch ^d
Feb.	7 th	Han: Barns. Zach ^s Wife
		Geo. Price's Ch ^d
	8	Tho ^s Hackmans Child
	19	Nath ^l Churchills Wife
	23	Jn ^o Fordery Edmonds Doc ^t
Mar.	1	Eben ^r Harlows Ch ^d
	4	Sar. Robert's Ch ^d
	16	Tho ^s Howards' Child
		1776 ¹
March	23 ^d	Eben ^r Doggett
	28	Wid ^o Edmond's Ind ⁿ ² Child

¹ This begins the third column.² Perhaps "Ind^{ns}."

April	2 ^d	Jn ^o Bartletts Child
	2 ^d ¹	Jn ^o Russell at Middlb ^o
	7 th	Joseph Holmes
	24 th	Nath ^l Jacks ^{as} Negro' Ch ^d
	25	Eben ^r Shurtleffs Ch ^d Small pox
May	26	Benj ^a King
	30	Reuben Tower's Smallpox
	11	Margr ^t Albertson Wid ^o
	12	Mary Weston maid ⁿ young
June	19	James Barnes
	2 ^d	James Hovey's Negr ^o Ch ^d
	4	Margr ^t Shaw's Ch ^d
	6 th	Cornelius Holmes Ch ^d
July	22	W ^m Watson's Negro boy ²
	6	W ^m Coy's Ch ^d
	8	W ^m Coy's Ch ^d
	10	Nath ^l Sayward drown ^d
	15	David Burbank in Army
Aug ^t	20	Nath ^l Donham's Wife
	2 ^d	Will ^m Holland's Child
	9	Oliver Kempton's Ch ^d
	11	Jn ^o Samson's Child
	13	Josiah Whittemore's Ch ^d
Sep ^r	23	Tho ^s Doten's Child
	3 ^d	Mary Mayhew Smallpox
	10	Benj ^a Smiths Child
	11	Stephen Samsons Ch ^d
	13	Silv ^s Bartletts Negro Wom ⁿ
Oct ^r	24	Cap ^t Benj ^a Rider's Wife's Child
	8	James Coad's Child
	13	Jonath ⁿ Morton Smallpox
	15	Luey Foster Smallpox
	18	Rich ^d Coopers Child
	22	A Negro Man Stranger
	27	Priscilla Calderwood Sm:pox
	30	Nicol ^s Drew Jun ^r Sm:pox
Nov ^r	5	Jn ^o Holmes Small pox
	7	A Stranger
	20	Nath ^l Morton Jun ^r
	21	Sam ^l Ellis
	22	Jn ^o Samson's Child
Dec ^r	2 ^d	Hannah Dyer 69 Sm:pox
	2 ^d	Meriah Howes effects of Sm:pox
	4	William Samson St ^{as} Son
	12	Jon ^a Kings Daug ^{rs} Child
	17 th	Deac ⁿ Jn ^o Torrey Smallpox

¹ This date is uncertain, having been altered.

² This word is obscure.

1777

Jan ^r	2 ^d	Juba Esq ^r Mayhews Negro
	8	Steph ^a Samsons Wife Sm:pox
	22	Job Foster Smallpox
	25	Deac ⁿ Th ^s Fost ^r Sm.pox 75
	30	Mercy Thomas Doct ^{rs} Dau ^r
Feb ^r	D ^o	Wid ^o Mary Tinkam
	2 ^d	Jn ^o Coopers Ch ^d
	15	Joshua Swift
	19	W ^m Doten 2 Child ⁿ twins
	20	So ^{ln} Davis's Wife!
Mar.	8 th	Hannah Goodwin Johns Wife
	25	Simeon Samson's Negro
Ap ^l	24	Tho ^s Doten's Wife Jerusha
	26	Josiah Bradford
May	1	Isaac Holmes Wife
	6	Lydia Phillips' Child
	20	Joseph Smiths Wife
June	26	Wid. Eliz. Edmonds
	D ^o	James Beating
July	21	Corban Barns Child

[98] Acc^t of Deaths continued

1777 & 1778

July	26	Eben ^r Harlow's Child
	27	James Thomas's Ch ^d
Aug ^t	17	Jn ^o Watsons Child
	31	Stephen Pain's Ch ^d
Sep ^r	10	Andrew Crosswells Ch ^d
	15	Jn ^o Howards Ch ^d
	16	Anna Torrey Nath ^l Daug ^r
	16	Thankful King
	20	A Negro Child
Oct ^r	2 ^d	Simeon Samsons Child
	2 ^d	Sam ^l Robbins' Child
	3 ^d	Amos Riders Ch ^d
	5 th	Ebenezer Harlow
	11	Joseph Bartlett's Ch ^d y ^e Mason
	13	Jon ^a Kings Daug ^r
Nov ^r	D ^o	Sam ^l Bryentt Ch ^d
	25	Rich ^d Bagnalls Ch ^d
	19	Tim ^o Goodwins Ch ^d
	21	Gershom Holmes <i>Sexton</i>
	23	Dan ^l Thrasher
Dec ^r	29	Josh ^a Bartlett kill ^d at Boston by y ^e fall ^g of a block &c
	24	Josiah Drews Child

1778

Jan ^r	21	Hannah Jackson Wid ^w
Feb ^r	6	Will ^m Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Ch ^d
Do	26	Jos. Green a Strang ^r brot in dead from Sea
Mar.	20	Geo: Price's Child
	22	Jn ^o Withred Sm:Pox
	beg ^s 1	Nath ^l Curtis drown ^d at Marsh ^d
	30	Abigail Price
April	2 ^d	Steph ⁿ Doten's Wife Ponds
	10	Negro Child of Esq ^r Winslow
	11	Ebenez ^r Robins's Child
	14	W ^m Watsons Negro Wom ⁿ & Ch ^d
	25	Benj. Drew's Child
May	3	Sarah Turner young
	17	Elisha Doten
	D ^o	Cesar Negro at Esq ^r W ^{ws}
	25	Nath ^l Leonard
	31	Wid ^o Jerusha Doten's Ch ^d
June	6 th	Tho ^s Lothrops Ind ⁿ boy
	9 th	Abiel Shurtleff
	24	Jacob Albertsons Ch ^d
	29	Deac ⁿ W ^m Crombie's Ch ^d
July	2 ^d	Josiah Finney Ju ^{rs} Wife
	6	Jonath ⁿ Diman's Wife
	29	Nath ^l Goodwins Ch ^d
	30	Nath ^l Donham's Dau ^r
Aug ^t	4	James Shurtleffs Ch ^d
	7	Marg ^t Eame's Child
	30	Josiah Finneys Ch ^d
Sep ^t	3 ^d	Sim ⁿ Harlows Ch ^d
	6	Jesse Churchills Child
	12	Wid ^w Lyd ^a Morton
	D ^o	Anna Withrell Th ^{ss} Wife
	16	Tho ^s Ward's Wife & Child
	18	Jn ^o Bishops Ch ^d
	24	Jon ^a Belcher's Ch ^d
	29	Wilson Churchills Ch ^d
	30	Eliz: Hooten Wid ^w
Oct ^r	3 ^d	Geo. Bartlett's Ch ^d
	7	David Holmes Ch ^d
	9	Ep ^m Bartlett's Ch ^d

1778 1779 & 1780²

Oct ^r	17	Wid ^o Patience Holmes
	24	Esq ^r Cotton's Negro Wom ⁿ
Nov ^r	4	Tho ^s Holmes

¹ This word is obscure.² This begins the second column.

	8	Thomas Dogget
	14	Wid ^w Lorana Fulgham
	19	Wid ^w Sarah Bramhall 95
Dec ^r	5	Jon ^a Darlings Wife
	30	Eliz ^a Churchill Maid ⁿ
~~Dec^r~~	30	74 Persons froze to Death Cast away in y ^e Harbor in a Privateer brig Cap ^t M ^c gee
		N ^o 48 besides y ^e drowned persons

1779

Jan ^r		Wid ^w Hannah Fuller
	6 th	Mary Sutton young woman
	26	Lemuel Morton 75
Feb ^r	2 ^d	Tho ^s Davy
	19	Jos. Bramhalls Ch ^d
	24	Wid. Eliz. Thomson 74
Mar.	6	Cap ^t Gid ⁿ White suddenly
	11	Wid ^w Jane Bartlett
	13	Silv ^s Bramhall
	12	Jos. Trasks Son
Apr ^l	2 ^d	John Harlows Wife
May	13	Joseph Ryder
	22	Rich ^d Holmes' Wife
	25	Will ^m Barns's Wife
June	29	Enoch Randall
July	1 st	George Samson's Child
Aug ^t	5 th	Nath ^l Donham 84
Sep ^r	20	Mercy Davis Tho ^{ss} Wife & still born Child
	20	Betty Bartlett Tho ^{ss} Wife
Oct ^r	5	George LeMotes Child
	6	John Torrey's Ch ^d
	15	Tho ^s Southworth Howland
	20	Barnabas Churchill
	22	Molly Goodwin Nath ^{ls} Wife
Nov ^r	5	Crosby Luce's Child
	18	Nath ^l Rider
	22 ^d	Cap ^t Ezra Allen
Dec ^r		James Collins' Child

N^o 29

1780

Jan	3 ^d	So ^l Bartletts Ch ^d
	11	W ^m Donhams Wife
	17	Jn ^o Goodwins Child sudd ⁿ
	19	Reliance King
	22 ^d	John Churchill
	26	Hannah Howland
Feb.	4	Jos. Croswells Child
	18	Abr ^m Hammats Ch ^d

Mar.	8	Mary Donham 94
	10	John Harlow 73
Ap ^l	7 th	Sam ^l Bartlett
May	3	Will ^m Clarke
June ¹	1	Doc ^t N. Lothrop's Wife Ellen
	23	Crosby Luce's Child Anon ^s
July	16	Rebecca Harlows Child
Aug ^t	2	W ^m Davy's Ch ^d
Sep ^r	1	Rev ^d Ch. Robbinss Child }
	3 ^d	Ch. Robbins's Ch ^d <i>Twins</i> }
	18	Widow of Sam ^l Ellis
	D ^o	Sam ^l Drews's Ch ^d anon.
	24	Wid. Hannah Nicolson
	26	Sim ^a Samson Ch ^d
	27	James Saverys Ch ^d

1780 1781 ²

Oct ^r	27	Amos Donham's Wife Abig ^l
	28	Geo. LeMotes Ch ^d
Nov	2 ^d	Mary Gamble
	14	Eben ^r Churchill
Dec ^r	23	Eben ^r Rider

28

1781

Jan ^{ry}	7 th	James Hovey Esq ^r
	13 th	Eliz ^a Doggett
	15	Jos. Jennings's Ch ^d
	19	Mercy Balston Benj ^s Wife
	26	Benj ^a Bagnall
	29	Wid. Lois Harlow
Mar.	4 th	Will ^m Watson Jun ^r
Ap ^l	14	Bartlett LeBarons Ch ^d
	22 ^d	— <i>his</i> Wife Mary LB ^a
	26	Margrett Keen Wid ^w
May	7	Zacheus Curtis
	11	Nath ^l Carvers Ch ^d
	28	Nath ^l Barnes
June	4 th	Eben ^r Robbins Wife Eun ^{ce}
	7 th	Joshua Swift
	18	Mary Foster Deac ^{ns} Wid.
	21	Nero Is. LB ^{ns} Negro
	24	Benj ^a Watson
	29	Olive Churchill
July	20	Jos. Bramhalls Ch ^d
Aug ^t	9	Tho ^s Savery 71
	13 th	Nath ^l Morton Jun ^r

¹ Apparently altered from "May."² This begins the third column.

	13 th	Rev ^d Philemon Robbins of Branford Connecticut Father to y ^o Pastor of y ^s Chh
	31	Francis Howards Ch ^d
	D ^o	James Carvers Child
Sep ^r	12	Will ^m Bartletts Child
	13	Sarah Dilano
	18	Elk ^a Bartletts Child
	23	Dolphins Child
Oct ^r	15	John Waterman
	23	Ep ^m Luce's Ch ^d
Nov ^r	8	Deac ⁿ Diman's Negro Wom ⁿ
	16	Barzill ^a Stetsons Ch ^d
		32
		1782
Jan ^r	2 ^d	Sam ^l Rogerss Child
	3 ^d	John Cobb's Child
	9	Eliz ^a Foster Jn ^{os} Wid ^w
	13	Nath ^l Donhams Daug ^r
	21	A Stranger fr. a Ship
	30	Corn ^s Holmes's Widow
Feb ^r	5	Rich ^d Holmes' Daug ^r
	18	Co ^l Theo: Cotton suddenly
Mar	7 th	Nath ^l Mortons Wife
	30 th	Wid. Mercy Douglass
Ap ^l	23	Jonath ⁿ King
May	12	Lydia Washb ⁿ Jn ^{os} Wife
July	6 th	Eben ^r Bartlett
	18	W ^m Coy's Child
	20	John Torrey's Wife
Aug ^t	1	Jos: Bartlett Jun ^r Ch ^d
	31	Jn ^o Watsons Ch ^d
Sep ^r	6 th	Isaac Harlows Ch ^d
	9	Jacob Albertsons Ch ^d
	D ^o	Sam ^l Jacksons Child
	14	Amos Donham
	21	Thomas Mayhew Esq ^r sudd ⁿ
	24	Josi: Drew's Child
	D ^o	Wid ^o Abig ^l Washb ⁿ
	27	Rob ^t Browns Child Polly

[99] Acc^t of Deaths continued

1782 1783

Sep ^r	28	Andrew Croswells Child
	30	Rob ^t Donhams Ch ^d
Oct ^r	1	James Collins's Child
	6	Josiah Bartletts Ch ^d
	14	Willard Sear's Ch ^d
	30	Silas Morton

Nov ^r	2 ^d	Charles Morton
	20	Rev ^d Ch. Robbins Ch ^d
Dec ^r	29	Isaac Samson Sim ^{as} Son kill ^d in an inst ^t by a Cart
	1 st	Barzill ^a Stetson drown ^d at Bost ⁿ
	6 th	Wid ^w Sarah Swift 80
	12 th	Silas Morton's Wid ^w
	31	John Nelson's Wife

N^o 38

N.B. 822 *Persons* have died at this time since I began this List, at my Or-
dination, exclusive of y^e 74 drown^d together Dec^r 1778

1783

Jan ^r	10 th	Cap ^t Nathan Dilano Etat ^s 81
	10 th	Desire Frazier Widow
	19 th	Judah Bartlett
	20 th	Rev ^d Josiah Cottons Child Anon ^s
Feb ^r	4 th	Deborah King Wid ^w of Jonath ⁿ
	14	Abiel Gardner Strang ^r Smallpox
	25	John Thomas's Wife Abig ^l
	26 th	Abr ^m Hammat's Child Anon ^s
Mar:	1 st	James Collins' Wife Lois
	D ^o	His infant Child Anon ^s
Ap ^l	15	Cap ^t Taylor's Wife
	2	Francis Howard's Wife
	29	Job Brewster
May	2 ^d	Isaac Symmes's Child
	29	Charles Morton
	30	Deac ⁿ Joseph Bartlett Aged 80
June	15 th	Nicolas Drew
	27 th 1	Hannah Rickard Aged 84
July	1	Benj ^a Bartlett's Child
	5 th	William Doten's Wife
	9 th	Zach ^s Harlows Child
	14 th	Jeremiah Howes Aged 80
	D ^o	Richard Cooper's Child
	22 ^d	Margrett Shaw Josh ^{as} Widow
	22 ^d	Barnab ^s Otis's Child
	24 th	David Drew's Child
Aug ^t	24 th	Jesse Churchills Child
	30 th	Andrew Churchill Et. 21
	6	Jos. Burbanks Child
	7	Jenny Pool's Child
	D ^o	Josiah Drew
	9 th	Robert Brown's Child
	11	John May's Child
	12	Jabez Doten's Child
	4 th	James Saverys Child (forgot in its Place

¹ Apparently "July" has been crossed out before "27th."

	23 ^d	Richard Holmes Jun ^r Child
Sep ^t	2	Joseph Jinnings Child anon ^s
	5	Judah Dilano's Child
	7	Josiah Finney aged 84
	9	Amaziah Churchill's Child
	13	James Prince's Child
	12	Eliza ¹ Bartlett Wid ^w of Samuel
	22	Sam ^l Bryants Child
	22	Samuel Robbins's Child
	29	Joseph Crosswells Child
Oct ^r	9 th	Nymphas Marston's Child
	24 th	Rev ^d Chand ^r Robbins's Child anon ^s
Nov ^r	21	Tho ^s Jackson Jun ^{rs} Child
	24	Mercy Abbot
	28	Ansel Faunce's Child
Dec ^r	14	.83 Isaac Symme's Wife ²
Dec ^r	16	Mercy Barnes

52

1784

1784

N.B. Worthy of thankful Remembrance y^t this is y^e longest Space of time, in which y^{re} has been no Death, that has been known for 40 Years, tis s^d, or more, ab^e 3 Months since y^e last Death in y^s Place.

March	28	Mich ^l Poor dy ^d in y ^e Woods by Drunkeness
Ap ^l	10	Judah Dilano's Child
May	23	James Carver's Child
	28	Tim ^o Goodwins Child
		Cap ^t Tho ^s Doten's Child
June	24	Josh ^a Totmans Child
	D ^o	M ^r Clarks Child
	27	Benj ^a Barnes Jun ^{rs} Child
Aug ^t	4 th	Rebecca Harlow dy ^d in Triumph!
	17	Lemuel Robins's Child
Sep ^t	8	Caleb Howland's Wife
	11	Eln: Holmes Daughter
Nov ^r	4 th	Thom ^s Clark's Wife
	5	Else Scarrott
	10 th	Hannah Thomas James's Wid ^o
	14	Laz ^s LeBaron
Dec ^r	2 ^d	James Savery fell fr. a house & kill ^d himself
	19	Benj ^a Barnes Jun ^{rs} Child
	27 th	Lemuel Holmes of a <i>Cancer</i>

19

1785

Jan ^r	20 th	Mary Allen
	D ^o	John Morton

¹ This name has been altered.

² This entry begins the second column.

	30 th	George Bartlett's Child
Feb ^r	2 ^d	Wait Atwood's Wife in Child birth
	D ^o	Wait Atwood's Child
	3 ^d	Judah Delano's Child
	4 th	Nath ^l Holmes' Son kill ^d by a log fall ^s on him broke his Neck
	17	Job Cobb's Child
Mar:	7 th	Cap ^t Thomas Davis
	8 th	Widow Doten Paul's Wid ^o
	21	Ezra Rider of Smallpox fr. W. Indies
Ap ^l	1 st	William Goodwin's Child
	3 ^d	Lem ^l Morton's Child
	17	Lem ^l Morton's Wife Sarah
	12 th	Rev ^d Andrew Crowell Boston Æt. 77
May		Samuel Doty's Child
	18 th	John Washburns Wife
June	2 ^d	Stephen Pain's Wife
July	5 th	John Thomas Aged 87 ab ^t
	16 th	Will ^m Bartlett's Wife
	28	Jos. Jennings' Child
Aug ^t	7	Ichabod Holmes Jun ^{rs} Child
	24	{ Wid: Mary Ryder Aged ab ^t 70 { Thom ^s Lanman drown ^d in y ^e harb ^r
Sept ^t	5	{ Eleazar Stephens { Nath ^l Shurtleff
	14	Barnab ^s Churchill's Child
	15	Richard Holmes's Child
	30	Sam ^{ll} Robbins's Child
Oct ^r	12 th	Bartlett Sylvester's Child
	13 th	William Cuffs
	27	Hannah Ryder Maid ⁿ 70
	D ^o	Jacob Albertson's Child
	31	Roland Cobb's Child
Nov ^r	9	Jon ^a Churchill 65
	12 th	Susanna Smith
	18	David Gorham
Dec ^r	23	Sarah Bartlett Deac ^{ns} Wid ^o 80
	30	Barn ^s Faunce's Child

38

N.B. Eben^r Luce began to be Sexton, Dec^r 1785. Sa^r. Bartlett's fun^l

1786¹

Jan ^r	5 th	Sam ^l Donhams Child
	11 th 2	Richard Bagnalls Child
	12	Jonath ⁿ Tufts's Wife Elizabeth
Feb.	9 th	Silvanus Howes Jun ^r
March	22 ^d	Gilbert Holmes's Child

¹ This begins the third column.

² This date is uncertain, the second figure having apparently been altered.

March	5 th	Lem ^l Drew's Child
	29	Wid ^o Mercy Savery James's
April	1	Joseph Robbins's Child
	3 ^d	Cap ^t Gamal ^l Collins of <i>Hardwick</i>
	D ^o	Daniel Diman's Wife
	21	Thomas Sylvester
May	6	Ichabod Bartlett's Wife ¹
	14	Isaac Holmes's Wife
June	10	An Indian Child overl ^d by its Moth ^r
	11 th	Sam ^l Churchill Jr's Child
July	25	Cap ^t James Doten
	30	Sam ^l Cole Jun ^r
Aug st	1 st	Widow Deb ^o Polden near 80
	26 th	Thomas Morton's Wife
Sep ^r	5	Thomas Wright Jos ^s Son John Francis Strang ^r of Mistick Simeon Harlow's Child
Oct ^r	16 th	Nicolas Spinks
	22 ^d	Cap ^t Standish (of Hallifax) drown ^d here
Dec ^r	5 th ²	Jonath ⁿ Bartlett's Child
	12	Will ^m Weston's Child
	28	Richard Cooper's Child

27

1787

Jan ^y	22 ^d	David Bacon's Child
Feb.	11	Ann Sheppard
	18	Dolphin's Child
	19	Abraham Howland
	22	And ^w Crosswells Child
Mar.	3 ^d	George Bartlett's Child
	29	— Waterman's Child of y ^e Eastw ^d
Ap ^l	30	W ^m Parson's Child S ^o Ponds
May	5	John Cotton's 3 ^{ds} Child
	14	Will ^m Holmes Jun's Child
	15	Wid ^o Mary Drew Levi's Wid ^o
June	5 th	Richard Holmes
July	7	Judah Hall's Child
	19	Ep ^m Bartl ^{ts} Son Laz ^s drown ^d fishing
Aug ^t	1	Wid ^o Sarah Drew Josiah's
	5	Crosby Luce's Child
	14	Warren Fisk ³ (Strang ^r) drown ^d fr. Vessell
	26	Peleg Faunce Jun ^{rs} Child
Sep ^r	15	Eben Robbins's Child
	22	Corn ^s Dunham's Child

¹ Here follows some shorthand.² The figure is uncertain, having been altered.³ Perhaps "Fish."

	30	Mercy Taylor—Bryant's Daug ^r
Oct.	3	Bartlett Marshalls Child
Nov ^r	1	M ^{rs} Cotton, Josiah Esq ^{rs} Wife
	3	Mercy Bartlett Ben's Daug ^r
	16	W ^m Bradfords Child
	23	Ichab ^d Holmes Jun ^{rs} Child
	26	

1788

Jan ^r	11 th	Jesse Churchills Child
Feb	5	Cornel ^s Holmes's Wife
	9	Lewis Weston's Child
	14	Amos Ryder's Child
	20	Will ^m Morton's Child
	22	Jane Tinkham near 80
Mar.	1	Thomas Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Child
	4	Thomas Bartletts Jun ^r Child
	15	Thomas Jackson Jun ^{rs} Child
Ap ^r	5	W ^m Barnes's Child
	8	Edward Stephens
May	2 ^d	Cap ^t Jacob Taylor
	3 ^d	Thaddeus Churchills Wife
	5 th	James Drew

[100] Acc^t of Deaths, continued

1788

June	12 th	Tho ^s Faunce
July	16	Jesse Harlow J ^{rs} Child
Aug	27	Cuff ¹ Negro of Co ^l Watson
Sep ^r	1	Bartlett L Baron's Child
	4	James Polden J ^{rs} Child
	10	David Drew's Child
	11	Sol ^o Bartletts J ^{rs} Wife
	19	Sam ^{ll} Morton's Jun ^r Child
	20	W ^m Coy's Child ²
Oct	5	Peter Lanman's Child
	20	W ^m L Barons Child
	24	Sarah Nicolson (Cap ^{ts})
		Peleg ³ Faunce J ^{rs} Child M ^o ago
Nov ^r	12	Ed ^w Mortons Child
	28	Francis Goodwin's Child
Dec ^r	25	Tho ^s Jackson y ^e 3 ^{ds} Child

30

¹ This name is obscure.² Here a line is crossed out.³ There is a date or some letters (perhaps "sp") before "Peleg."

1789

Jan ^r	22 ^d	Jn ^o Watson's Child
Feb ^r	8 th ¹	Caleb Fish's Child
Ap ^l	5	Cap ^t Geo. Dunham's Wife
	14	Rebecca Sears Maiden
	17	Seth Morton
	22	Silvester Holmes
June	18	Silv ^r Holmes' Wife w th a Cancer
	22 ^d	Cap ^t Sim ⁿ Samson at Plimpt ⁿ sudd ⁿ
July	13	Benj. Washburn's Wife w th <i>Lock Jaw</i>
Aug ^t	17	Lothrop Turner's Wife
	23 ^d	Cornelius Holmes 70
	29	Thom ^s Jackson Jun ^{rs} Child
Sep ^r	9	Rebecca Morton
		Benj ^a Clark's Child
Oct ^r	23 ^d	Thank ^l Ryder Wid ^w (Pold ⁿ once)
Nov ^r	3 ^d	John Cotton Esq ^r 77 y ^{rs}
	19 ²	Kimbal Crombie's Wife
	23 ^d	Patience Warren Maid ⁿ 73
	24 th	George Ellis's Wife
	15 th	John Edwards' Child
Dec ^r	8 th	Barn ^s Churchills Child
	24	Isaac Symm's Child
	31	Stephens Mason

23

1790

Jan ^r	20 th	Widow Abig ^l Bartlett. Benj ^a 87
Feb ^r	4 th	Eleazar Churchill 76
	15	Cap ^t Sam ^l Hovey's Wife
	28	Cap ^t Geo: Dunham's Child
Ap ^l	2	Jon ^a Tuft's Child
	5 th	Thomas Burgiss' Child anon ³
	10 th	Will ^m Coy's Wife.
	20	Tho ^s Jackson 3 ^{ds} Child
	27	John Bartlett
	29	Laz ^s Harlow's Child
May	5 th	Will ^m Barnes's Wife
	15 th	Amaz ^h Churchill Jun ^r <i>kill^d himself</i>
	18	Bartlett Sylvester's Wife
	19	Wid ^w Hannah Bradford
	21	Betsy Morton y ^{es} Maid ⁿ
	D ^o	Wid ^o Silvester's Son Solomon's
	21	Zach ^s Bartletts Child
	22	Joseph Mitchells Wife

¹ This figure is uncertain.² This figure is uncertain.³ This word is obscure.

	29	Nath ¹ Lewis's Wife
June		Rufus Robbins's Child
July	18	Lemuel Fish
Aug ^t	6	Lem ¹ Cobb's Child
	30	Phillip Negro Co ¹ Watson's
Sep ^r	8	Silas Hathaway
	18	Os ^m Morton's Child
1790 ¹		
Oct ^r	14	Cap ^t Sam ¹ Hovey's Child
	16	Doct ^r Mercy's Child
	18	Thomas Withrell's Child
Nov ^r	11	Benj. Bramhall's Child
	22 ^d	Geo. Lemote's Child
	14	Judah Dilano's Child
		Haze's ² Child Negro
Dec ^r	9	Doct ^r Thachers Child
	12	Doct ^r Thachers Child
	12	Eliz ^a Raymond Jer. Holmes D ^r
	20	Lem ¹ Bradford's Wife
	24	Eben ^r Robbins's Child
37		
1791		
Jan ^r	6 th	Thomas Finney
	12	Eph ^m Holmes drown ^d
	13	Josiah Bradford's Child
	14	Benj ^a Clark's Wife
	19	Polly Morton Daug ^r of Seth dec ^d
	22	Joseph Morton Son of Ezek ¹
Feb ^r		Peter Holmes's Child
	14	Polly Rider Daugh ^r of Eben ^r dec ^d
Mar.	17	Isachar Howland's Child
	18	Cap ^t Jn ^o Finney 91 y ^{rs}
	28	John Otis's Wife
		Josiah Morton ab ^t this time ab ^t 80
May	1	Andrew Morton
	27	Judah Bartlett
June	7	Sam ¹ Doty's Child
	8	David Drews Child drowned
	18	Benj. Ryder Jun ^{rs} Wife
May	18	Deborah Atwood Wid ^o of Jn ^o
June	5 th	James Doty Jun ^{rs} Child
	23 ^d	Eben ^r Robins's Child
	24	Diman Bartlett's Child
	26	Sam ¹ Churchill's Wife Anne's Sist ^r
July	23 ^d	Kimbal Crombie

¹ This begins the second column.² This name is uncertain.

	24	Bartlett Marshall's Wife
	26	Seth Luce's Wife
Aug ^t	7	Tho ^s Goodwins Child
	10	Will ^m Goodwins Child
July		Eben ^r Howard's Child forgot in place
Aug ^t	20	John Bacon's Child
	25	Doct ^r Rosseter Cotton's Child
	27	Isaac Symme's
Sep ^r	2 ^d	Sam ^l Robbins's Child
	D ^o	Dolphin Gatler's ¹ Child
	D ^o	Seth Churchills Child
		Zach ^s Harlows Child
	6	Jabez Doten's Child
	21	Charles Holmes
	D ^o	Peleg Faunce's Child
	22	Zacheus Bartletts Child
	25	Thomas Torry ^s Jun ^r Child
	30	Seth Churchills Child
Oct ^r	19	Seth Ryder's Child
	28	Jn ^o Douglass's Child
Nov ^r	4	Osborn Mortons Child
	6	John Russell's Child
	17	Joshua Holmes
	16	Edward Mortons Child
	20 ²	Osborn Morton's Child 2 ^d
	25	Castle's Child
Dec	13	Nanny Negro of Rob. Brown
	20	Wid ^w Mary Doty Sam ^{ls} Wid
	24	Mercy Hedge Aged 83
	30	Jos[eph Mitchell]

53

1792³

Jan ^r	19 th	Priamus ⁴ Negro of Sam ^l Jacks ^{n's}
	22	Barnab ^s Holmes's Child
Feb ^r	1	Joseph Smith 81
	8	Rebeca Campbell (pauper)
	15	Daniel Diman's Wife
	17	Hannah Dunham (Wid ^o of Nath ^l) 80
Mar.	6	Will ^m Barns Jun ^{rs} Child
	20	Lucia Watson dy ^d at Freetown
	14	Rebecca Ryder 70
April	23	Wid ^o Mary LeBaron 73
May	8	John Stephens's Child
	11	Joseph Kings Child

¹ This name is uncertain, the third letter being obscure.² Altered from "21."³ This begins the third column.⁴ This name is obscure.

	13	Eben ^r Samson's Wife aged Midwife
	29	Lemuel Bartlett 76
June	17	Abiel Washburn's Child
	28	Diman Bartlett's Child
		Patience Cobb Widow
		Sam ¹ Robbins's Child
Aug ^t	7	Sam ¹ Holmes's Child
		Josiah Finney's Child
	25	Samuel Morton's Wife
Sep ^r	22 ^d	Wid ^o Mary Ryder Eben ^r 's
	26	James Prince's Child
	28	Cap ^t James Russell aft ^r long Distract ^a
Oct ^r	3 ^d	Cap ^t Stephen Churchill's Child
	8 th	Dolphin Hobarts Child
Nov ^r	3 ^d	Lewis Weston's Child
	18	Widow Eglah ^{d1} Washburn
	26	James Doten's Child
	27	Will ^m Morton 3 ^d 's Wife
Dec ^r	27	Deac ⁿ Warren's Widow Aged 73 ²
	31	

1793

Jan ^r	24 th	John Bartlett Child of Doroth ^y B ³
	31	Widow Dorcas Barnes 87
Mar.	4 th	Wid ^o Sarah Dowe ³ 75
	23	William Harlow ab ^t 76 ⁴
	24 ⁵	Zenas ⁶ Sturtevant's Child
	29	Wid ^o Elizab th Bartlett, ab ^t 76
Ap ¹	11	James Stetson
	13	Seth Doggetts Child
	18	Wid ^o Susanna Churchill 73
	20	Tony Negro of M ^{rs} 7 Burr
	21	Benj. Barnes's Child ⁸
	29	Doct ^r Thachers Child
June	1	William Warren
	11	Wid ^o Sarah Ripley ab ^t 84
	14	Wid ^o Hannah Howes 76
May	15	William Nelson's Child
	21	Benj ^a Barnes's Child } forgot before

¹ This name is uncertain.² Altered from "75," or perhaps "75" altered from "73."³ Here is some shorthand.⁴ Altered apparently from "75."⁵ Written over "29," erased.⁶ Written over "Wid^o," erased.⁷ Perhaps "M^r."⁸ This entry, which is badly blurred, appears to read as given in the text; but the death of David Barnes Cotton on April 27, 1793, is recorded in Kingman, Epitaphs from Burial Hill, p. 68.

June	18	John Doten's Child
July	4 th	Benj ^a Whiting's Child
July	10	Isaac Barne's Child
	D ^o	Samuel Robbins's Child
	13	Crosby Luce's Child
June	26 th	Ichabod Morton's Child (forgot in place)
July	3 ^d	Sam ^l Rickards Child
	17	Dorcas Burr Negro
Aug ^t	3	Jos. Jennings' Wife
		Zach ^s Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Child
	11	John Paty's Child
	D ^o	Tho ^s Torrey Jun ^{rs} Child
	25	Sol ^o Churchill's Child
Sep ^r	2	Lazarus Harlow's Child

[101] Acc^t of Deaths continued

1793

Sep ^r	5	W ^m Rogers's Child
	13	Silv ^s Paty's Child
	14	Benj ^a Goddards Child
	D ^o	Sam ^l Jacks ⁿ J ^{rs} Child
	24	D ^r Rosst ^r Cotton's Child
	16	Eben ^r Howard's Child
Oct.	9	Wid. Lyd ^a Coles Child Sammy
	10	Tho ^s Morton's Child (Jun ^r)
	12	Nathan Reed's Wife
	13	Tim ^o Burbank 90
	16	Sam ^l Mort ⁿ J ^{rs} Child
	21	Cap ^t Jn ^o Paty's Child
	25	Thomas Clark
	26	Cap ^t Nelson's Wife
	D ^o	John Watson's Wife
Nov ^r	15 ¹	Nath ^l Foster of Midd ^o a member of y ^a Chh 83
		Benj ^a Kings Child
	14 ^{th 2}	Abigail Morton Ich ^{ds} Dau ^r
	30 ³	Henry Richmond's Wife
	8 ^{th 4}	Geo: Manter's Wife forgot before
Dec ^r	6	Nath ^l Thomas Jun ^{rs} Wife
	12	Wid ^o Sarah Faunce Tho ^{ss}
	16	Amasa Morton's Wife
	21	John Nelson 83
	23	Will ^m Barns sudd ⁿ ly

55

¹ This date is obscure.² This date is uncertain.³ This date is uncertain.⁴ This date is uncertain.

1794

Jan ^r	3 ^d	Wid ^o Abigail Gorham
	5	George Thrasher's Child
	18	Samuel Lanman 73
	19	M ^{rs} M ^c Lathly's Child
	23 ^{d1}	Col. Thomas Lothrop ²
Feb ^r	14	Will ^m Bradford at <i>Roxbury</i> dy ^d fr. <i>Operatⁿ for y^e Stone</i> Zacheus Stephens dy ^d at <i>West Indies</i> in <i>Dec^r</i> or beg ^s <i>Jan^r</i>
	15 th	Alden Clark's Wife
	4 th	Diman Bartlett's Child
	17	Benj. Barnes's Child
	19	Hez. Nelsons Child
Mar.	28	Cap ^t Thomas Doten
	5 th	Isaac Holmes
Ap ^l	31	Joseph Ryder
	4 th	Wid ^o Sarah Holmes (Zeph ^s) Nath ^l Bartlett dy ^d in <i>W. Indies</i>
	15	Nath ^l Churchill 82 George Edwards in <i>W. Indies</i>
	28	Sam ^l Roger's Child
	30	— Brooks's Child Rufus Robbins J ^r at <i>W. Indies</i>
	21	Peabody Bartlett's Child
	22	Hannah Symmes
June	31	Seth Dogget's Wife <i>suddenly</i>
	6	James Doten Jun ^r <i>very sudden</i>
	13	M ^{rs} McCarter ³ <i>suddenly</i>
	17	Priscilla Warren near 90
	18	W ^m Sturtevant's Child
July	D ^o	Charles Jackson's Child
	3 ^d	Joseph Holmes Wife <i>suddenly</i>
	20	Will ^m Jackson's Wife
	27	Zach ^s Bartletts Child See next Column
Aug st	1 ^t	Joseph Plaskett ⁴
	23 ^d	Benjam ⁿ Washburn Nath ^l Barnes at <i>W. Indies</i> Amos Bradford at D ^o Isaac Cole at D ^o Stephen Pain Nova Scotia
	1	Prince's Negro Child
	13 th	Rebecca Samson a youth
	19	Thomas Jackson Esq ^r
Sep ^t	21	Elnathan Holmes' Child

¹ This date is obscure.² Here follows what appears to be a word or two in shorthand.³ This name is underscored.⁴ This entry begins the second column.

	28	Wid ^o Joanna Samson 87
	D ^o	Barn ^s Hedge's Child
Oct ^r	14	Abiel Washburn's Wife sudden
	27	Cap ^t Robbins's Child
	30	Thomas Wethrell's Wife & <i>Child</i> infant
Nov ^r	21	Jenny Price
		Peter Holmes dy ^d in W Indies
		Corban Barnes 3 ^d D ^o

51

1795

Jan ^r	8 th	Mary Pope (once Mitch ^l)
	20	David Turner's Child
Feb ^r	1	Tho ^s Burgis' Child } twins
		Tho ^s Burgis' Child }
Feb ^r	1	Wid ^o Abig ^l Washburn's Child
	4 th	Mary Warren Maid ⁿ in 89 th year
		William Boice dy ^d in <i>W. Indies</i>
Mar.	2 ^d	Widow Eliz ^h Finney Tho ^{ss} Wid ^o
	9 th	Mad ^m Jane Gilman (my Moth ^r in law) at <i>Newbu</i>
April	2	M ^r Hatch's Child Ellriv ^r stranger
	19	Benj ^a Whittings Child
		Joseph Barn's dy ^d in <i>W. Indies</i>
		Joseph Balston in <i>Africa</i>
		Alden Clark Riv ^r <i>Gambia Africa</i>
	15 th	Sam ^l Brooks' Child
	26	Esq ^r Jon. Cotton's Child
June ¹	2 ^d	John Goddard
	7 th	John Edwards
	16	Peleg Faunce
	27	Lazarus Goodwin
July	4 th	Robert Davy
	18	Silvanus Rogers's Child stillborn
		Samuel Rogers } all dy ^d in &
		William Morton } return ^e from y ^e
		Lewis Bartlett } West Indies in
		William Coad } Cap ^t Carver Jun ^r
August	1 st	William Weston's Child
	D ^o	Silvanus Rogers' Wife
	D ^o	William Davees ² Jun ^r Child
	5 th	Lewis Holmes' Child
	6 th	Bartlett Le Baron's Child
		Patience Churchill young wom ⁿ
		William Keen's Child
Sep ^r	16	Eleaz ^r Holmes Jun ^{rs} Wife
	19	Cap ^t Croswell a Strang ^r fr <i>W. Indies</i>

¹ Written over "May."² The fourth and fifth letters in this word have apparently been altered.

	22 ^d	Patience Burgis sudd ^a ly ab ^t 75
	24	Seth Churchills Child
	30 th	Wid ^o Eliz ^a Churchill (of Amaz ^h Jun ^r)
		George Mortons Child
Oct ^r	16	Thomas Faunce's Wife
	17	Elnathan Holmes's Child
	18	Barn ^s Hedge's Child
	28	Southworth Barn's Benj ^a Son
Nov ^r	6	Judah Bartlett's Widow's Child
		Joseph Cooper's Child
	10	Josiah Harlow Son of Zeph ^h Harl ^o
	12	Osborn Morton's Child
	16	Nath ^l Ellis's Child
	15	Mary Hill Jonath ^{as} Wife
	18	Joseph Treble's Child
	30	Prince Washburn's Child

1795 continued¹

Dec ^r	4 th	Eleaz ^r Holmes Jun ^{rs} Child
	5 th	Lem ^l Morton's Child
	10	Lemuel Morton's Child again
	14	Amasa Morton
	15	Ichabod Shaws Son Sam ^l
	16 ²	Benj ^a Barnes's Child
	18 ³	Moses Nichols's Child
	D ^o	Lansing Hatheway's Child
		Barn ^s Holmes's Child <i>some weeks ago</i>
		Stephen Churchill Jun ^{rs} Child <i>weeks ago</i>
Dec ^r	9	Nath ^l Holmes Jun ^{rs} Child
	23 ^d	James Prince's Child
	24 th	Caleb Leach's Child
	26	Ichabod Shaw Jun ^{rs} Wife
	27	Lewis Weston's Child
	28	Cap ^t Nath ^l Spooner's Child

67

1796

Jan	2 ^d	Geo ^{ge} Bramhall
	10 th	Cap ^t Coomer Weston <i>at ye Viny^a com^o fr. West Indies</i>
	12 th	Joseph Barne's Child
	12 th	Cap ^t W ^m Sherm ^a <i>ret^o fr. West Ind^s bury^d at ye Vineyard</i>
	16 th	Sol ^o Ingly's Child
	26	Wid ^o Han ^h Bartlett's (once <i>Paty</i>) Child
	29	James Polden's Wife
	30	Doc ^r Rosseter Cotton's Child

¹ This begins the third column.² This date has been altered.³ This date has been altered.

	31	Caleb Leach's Child Son
Feb ^r	1 st	Barnabas Hedge's Child Zacheus Bartlett in <i>W. Indies</i>
Feb ^r	11 ¹	Eben ^r Luce's Son <i>Seth</i> dy ^d in Triumph
	26	Wid ^o Margret Cobb 85
March	1	Wid ^o Suss ^a Dutch
	6	Amaziah Harlow's Wife
	8	Richard Holmes's Jun ^r Child
	15	Jonathan Polden's Wife
	22	Zeph ^a Bartletts Child
Ap ^l	1	Elijah Dunhams Child drown ^d
	8 th	[Hon ^{bl} Thomas Russell of Bost ⁿ 56 <i>pub^c Loss</i>] ²
	7 th	Martha Cotton Wid ^o of Co ^l Cott ⁿ 79
	26	Nath ^l Thomas's Child
May	5 th	Naaman Holbrook
	8 th	Elisha <i>Negro</i> of Jon ^a Samson ab ^t 90
	11	David Finney Son of Jn ^o Finney
	23 ^d	Willard Sears Jun ^r
	24	Ezek ^l Morton ab ^t 70
	27	Ezek ^l Morton Jun ^{rs} Wife
June	6 th	Patrick Morris's Wife
Aug ^t	7	Benj ^a Morton's Child
	8	Ichabod Shaw Jun ^{rs} Child
	10	Joseph Whiting's Wife
	20	Sol ^o Ingle's Child
	21	Eben ^r Holmes's Wife
	D ^o	Amasa Bartlett's Child
	14	Widow Eunice Morton
	15	William Jacksons Child
	24	— Bishop a <i>pauper</i> 80 y ^{rs}
	25	Jn ^o Doten's Child
	30	Charles Jacksons Child
Sep ^r	4 th	— Perkins' Wife (<i>Sil^s Dⁿh^{ms} Dau^r</i>)
	10	Andrew Croswell Esq ^r
	D ^o	Thomas Jackson's Child
	9	Eunice Morton decess ^d s Child
	10	Isaac Jackson Jun ^r (Isaac's Son)
	11	Nancy Bartletts Child
	D ^o	Dolly Bartlett (wid ^o Dor ^{os} Daug ^r)
	18	Charles Churchill Jun ^{rs} Child
	20	George Churchill at Sea ³ in Virginia Mercy Foster Wid ^o dy ^d at Verm ^t at her Daug ^r
Oct ^r	7	Roland Holmes's Child
	D ^o	Eleaz ^r Mortons Child
	8	Sylvanus Harlows Wife
	13	Richard Holme's Child

¹ This date has been altered.² The square brackets are in the original.³ This word is uncertain.

[102] Accounts of Deaths continued

1796

Oct ^r	16 th	Sylv ^s Paty's Child
	23 ^d ¹	Tho ^s Paty's Child Benj ^a Wright at <i>W. Indies</i> Rufus Holmes D ^o
	20 th	Elijah Sherman Sudd ⁿ
	29 th	Will ^m L'Baron's Wife
	30	Israel Bradford's Child
	31	Rufus Robbins
Nov ^r	14	Sarah Davy y ^g wom ⁿ Rob ^{ts} ²
	17	Ansel Lucas's Child
	30	David Drew's Child
Dec ^r	10 th	Jn ^o Virgin's Child Ep ^m Everson's Child
	14	Jn ^o Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Child Otis Churchill in <i>W. Indies</i>
	25	Sylvanus Holmes 80 y ^{rs} old
		Perkins at Sea, <i>last Sept^r</i>

70

1797

1797

Jan ^{ry}	5 th	Nancy Churchill 16 y ^{rs}
	17 th	Lucy Shurtleff ab ^t 70
	25	Sarah Merop Jn ^{os} Wife
Feb ^r	11	Wid ^o Eliz ^a Davy Rob ^{ts} Wid ^o
	25	Deacon Jon ^a Diman 85
	27	Maj ^r Benj ^a Warren's Wife
Mar.	3 ^d	David Diman's Child
	4 th	Thomas Holme's Wife } bury ^d in one grave
	5 th	Thomas Holmes himsf }
	D ^o	Ezek ^l Raymond's Daug ^r
	14 th	James Churchill Charles Jacksons Child ab ^t y ^s time
Ap ^l	6 th	Thomas Davie
	14	D ⁿ Bishop's Child <i>chok^d a bean</i>
	15	W ^m Richmond
	16	Mercy Bramhall's Child
	13	Th ^s Holme's dec ^{sds} Child
May	30	Willard Sears's Child
May	26	Thaddeus Faunce's Child
June	8	Elk ^a Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Child
	14	John Burbank's Child
	22	Ezek ^l Morton's Child

¹ This date is uncertain, having been altered.² Apparently a letter follows this name. The young woman was Sarah, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Davie.

	26	Joseph Samson's Wife
July	28 th ¹	James Coad's Wife
July	17 th	Elk ^a Bartlett Jun ^{rs} Wife
Aug ^t	10	Jn ^o Russells Child sudd ⁿ
	12	Elijah Donham's Child still b ⁿ
		Jabez Leach Son to Lem ^l in <i>W. Inds</i>
Sep ^r	21 st	St ⁿ Doten J ^r Son 15 y ^{rs}
		Bartlett Finney Son of Wid. Lyd ^a also at <i>West Inds</i>
Sep ^r	22 ^d	Barn ^s Hedge J ⁿ Child
	27	Steph ⁿ Doten J ⁿ Wife
	28	Tho ^s Jackson J ^{rs} Child only 2 ²
Oct ^r	6	Elisha Nelson Eben ^r Son
	9	David Sturtevant drown ^d (in Kingst ⁿ bounds)
	13	Cap ^t Abraham Hammatt
	20	Betsy Doten, Steph ^{ns} Dau ^r
	25	Wid ^o Zilpah Bramhall
		Will ^m Straffen's Child
	30 th	D ^r Haywards Child
Nov ^r	10	Cap ^t Jn ^o Paty's Child
	15	Eben ^r Howards's Child
	27	Lewis Holmes Child Twin
	29	Diman Bartlett's Child
Dec ^r	1 st	Sophia Hammatt Et ^s 14
	4	Wid ^o Eliz. Sylvester
	15	Daniel Diman
		Patrick Morris — forgot

47

1798³

Jan ^r	13 th	Wid ^o Lydia Sutton ab ^t 70
	14 ⁴	Nathaniel Burgess
	15	Seth Churchill
	5 th	Barnaby Faunce's Child
	26.	W ^m Clark Jun ^{rs} Wife drown ^d hersf
Feb.	21	Eleazar Holmes 84 ⁵
Mar.	3 ^d	Caleb Howland's (only) Son 5 y ^{rs} old
		{ Thomas Leon ^{ds} Child twin
		{ Tho ^s Leonard's oth ^r twin (last m ^o)
	12 th	A Negro Man Strang ^r died in Jail
		Cap ^t Thom ^s Nicolson dy ^d in <i>W. Indies</i> on <i>Feb^r 9th</i> A worthy
		man Et. 49
Mar:	20 th	Caleb Morton
	21	Wid ^o Mercy Bramhall 78

¹ This date has apparently been altered.² This is obscure.³ This begins the second column.⁴ The second figure in this date has apparently been altered.⁵ Here follows some shorthand.

Ap ^l	2 ^d	George Douglas Thomson 24
	4 th	Jn ^o Merop's Child
May	6	James Thurston 24
	13	Geo. Bartlett's Wife
June	7 th	W ^m Brewster's Child
	30 th	Madam Priscilla Hobart 89
July	27	Lewis Holmes' Wife
	28	Sam ^l Mort ⁿ Jun ^{rs} dec ^{sds} Child
Aug ^t	6 th	Rich ^d Holmes J ^{rs} Child
	7 th	Cap ^t Sam ^l Nicols Nelson 77
	15	— Macomber's Child ¹
	20	Cap ^t Benj ^a Churchills Wife
	24 ²	Th ^s Good ⁿ of <i>Bev'ly's</i> Ch ^d bury ^d here
	25	Hannah Donham Maiden
	30	W ^m Goodwins Child
	31	George Finney's Child
Sep ^t	2 ^d	Will ^m Watson's Wife
		Joshua Holmes in W. Indies
	11	W ^m Coy's Wife
	13	Jn ^o Virgin's Child
	14	Edw ^d Taylor's Ch ^d
	15	Cap ^t Bagnals Child
	D ^o	Cap ^t Lewis Holmes' Ch ^d
	16	Josiah Diman's Ch ^d
	22 ^d	William Goddard's Ch ^d
	D ^o	David Holme's J ^r Ch ^d
	D ^o	David Holmes J ^{rs} Child } <i>Twins</i>
	23 ^d	Polly Convers once Fish
	D ^o	Cap ^t Carver Jun ^{rs} Child
	27	Jacob Howland
	28	Lewis Weston
	D ^o	W ^m Goodwins Child
	29	David Turner's Child
	30	Nath ^l Bartlett's Child
Oct ^r	2 ^d	Sam ^l Ryder's Child
	7 th	Tho ^s May Youth ab ^t 17 y ^{rs} ³
	16	Nancy Raymond's Child
	D ^o	Lem ^l Robbins s Child
	17	Wid ^o Howland Abr ^{ms}
	D ^o	Will ^m Goodwin's Child
	D ^o	George Rogers's Child
	8	W ^m Roger's's Child (forgot)
	24	Josiah Diman's Wife
	25	Prince Washb ^{ns} Child
	D ^o	Thomas Rogers's Child

¹ Here the entry "18 Hannah Donham Maiden" is crossed out.

² This date has been altered.

³ Here the entry "5 Dan^l Jackson's Child Mistake" is crossed out, except the word "Mistake."

Nov ^r	3 ^d	James Read's Child
	5	Eph ^m Luce, young man
	8	Jabez Doten's Child
	24	Cap ^t Edward Taylor who <i>was drown^d com^e ashore on y^e Islands</i> boat filled

1798

1798¹

Nov ^r	27 th	Polly Glover Maid at B ^s Hedge's
Dec ^r	6 th	Benj ^a Drew's Wife
D ^o		M ^{rs} Convers (<i>Polly fish</i>) dec ^{ds} Child
	8	Widow Bathsheba Rickard
		{ Thomas Paty's Child twin
		{ Thomas Paty's Child Do
	18	Osborn Morton's Child
D ^o		Ansel Bartlett's Child
	20	Hannah Nelson Maid ⁿ Eben ^{rs} 28
	20	— Lumber a new Com ^r found Dead S ^o Ponds
	25	Lincoln's Wife sudden 2 days fr. Childbirth
		Abbot Drew West Indies

74

1799²[103-106³] [117⁴] Church Records 1732⁵

Baptisms

July 30 1732 Four Children of Lydia Polden the wife of John Polden
were Baptized viz. Hannah, Benjamin, Thankful & William

Children of Thomas Withrel & Rebecca his Wife

Augst 6 1732 Hannah

Children of Samuel Bartlet & Hannah his Wife

August 6 1732 Judah

Children of John Thomas and Abigail his Wife

Augst 20 1732 John & James

May 18 1735 Nathanael

Ap^l 5 1741 Susannah

Children of M^r John Sparhawk & Hannah his Wife

Augst 30 1732 Hannah

Jan^{ry} 21 1738/9 John

¹ This begins the third column.

² Here the hand of Mr. Robbins ceases. See p. 620, below.

³ Pp. [103-106] of the text are blank, pp. [104] and [106] not being numbered in the original.

⁴ There are no pages numbered [107-116], p. [117] following p. [106]. Many of the page-numbers on pp. [117-220] of the text have been altered.

⁵ The entries on pp. [117-153] of the text—or pp. 429-451 of this volume—are in the hand of the Rev. Nathaniel Leonard.

Children of Josiah Cotton Esq^r & Hannah his Wife

Sep^r 17 1732 Rouland

Children of Sarah Howard the Wife of Jam^s How^d

Sep^r 24 1732 John, Mary, James, & Francis¹

Feb: 24 1734/4 Sarah

[118] Baptisms

Children of Solomon Silvester & his wife

Octo 29 1732 Joseph

May 12 1734 Solomon

Ap^l 9 1738 another Baptiz^d

Children of Lazarus Sampson

Nov^r 12 1732 Jemima

April 20 1735 Susannah

Jan^{ry} 2 1736/7 Ephraim

Jan^{ry} 22 1737/8 Lazarus

Feb 3 1739/40 Mary

Children of Hilkiah Tinkham & Elizabeth his Wife

Nov^r 12 1732 Isaac, Zedekiah, Ebenezer, Sarah, Martha Ruth & Mary

April 20 1735 Lydia

Children of Marcy the wife of Edward Stephens

Nov^r 26 1732 Sarah, Joseph

Children of Thomas Ward & Johannah his Wife

Nov^r 26 1732 Ebenezar

Sep^r 2 1733 Jonathan

Decem^r 10 1733 Elizabeth

Jan^{ry} 18 1735/6 Ebenezar²

Octo^r 16 1737 Johanna

June 25 1738 Mary

Feb 24 1739/40 Mary

Children of John Harlow Jun^r & .

Nov^r 26 1732 Jabez

March 17 1733/4 John

Jan^{ry} 18 1735/6 Ebenezar

June 18 1738 Silvanus

Feb 10 1739/40 Jesse

[119] Baptisms

Children Seth Barnes & his wife Sarah

Decem^r 3 1732 William

Feb: 13 1736 Twins Joseph & Benjamin

¹ Here a date is crossed out.

² This name is badly blurred, and may have been crossed out. It is apparently followed by another word, which is undecipherable.

Children of Rebecca Morton Wid^wDecem^r 3 1732 Zephaniah, William, George & Rebeckah

Children of Nathan Ward & Elizabeth his Wife

Decem^r 3 1732 Hannah, Ephraim & John

Children of Judah West & his Wife

Jan^{ry} 14 1732/3 Joshua

May 19 1734 Josiah

Children of Deborah Sampson — Wid^w of Micah Sampson

May 24 1741 Micah

Children of Samuel Holmes & his Wife

Jan^{ry} 28 1732/3 Samuel

July 28 1734 Sarah

Children of Nicholas Drew & Lydia¹ his Wife

Feb: 4 1732/3 Lydia

[120] Baptisms

Children of John Finney & his Wife

Feb 28 1732/3² James

Feb: 9 1734/5 Elizabeth

Children of Sam^l & Marcy Doten

Feb 25 1732/3 Marcy

April 6 1735 Hannah

Sep 4³ 1737 Sarah

Children of Thomas Jackson & his Wife

Feb: 25 1732/3 Ruth

Jan: 12 1734/5 Naomi

July 31 1737 Hezekiah

July 13 1746 Hannah

Children of Deacon Haviland Torrey & Elizabeth his wife

March 18 1732/3 Deborah

Decem^r 22 1734 Haviland

Feb 27 1736/7 Samuel

Children of Nathaniel Dunham

March 18 1732/3 Hannah

June 29 1735 Elizabeth

[121] Baptisms

Children of Joseph Ryder Jun^r & Abigail his wife

April 8 1733 William, Abigail & Joseph

Feb 8 1735/6 Tilden

¹ The fourth and fifth letters in this word have been altered.² Here "Ruth" is crossed out.³ Here a figure is crossed out.

Children of Nath^l Holmes 3^{tlus} & Priscilla his wife

Ap^l 15 1733 Joannah
 May 13 1739 David

Children of Benj^a Ellis & his wife

May 6 1733 Benjamin

Children of Robert Harlow & wife

May 6 1733 James

Children of Samuel Ellis & wife

May 6 1733 Marcy

[122] Baptisms

Children of Deacon John Atwood & Experiance his wife

May 13 1733 Elizabeth
 March 2 1734/5 Experiance
 Sep 25 1737 George
 March 4 1738/9 George
 Decem. 20 1740 Priscilla

Children of Barnabas Churchill & his wife

May 20th 1733 Ebenezar
 May 11 1735 Lydia
 June 17 1739 John

Children of M^r Thomas Gardner & Hanna his wife

Octo 29 1738 Mary

Children of William Lucas & his Wife

May 20 1733 Isaac

Children of Eliakim & Mary Tupper

June¹ 9 1739 Mary

Children of James Warren Esqr & Penelope his Wife

May 27 1733 Winslow
 March 14 1735/6 Josiah

Children of Robert Brown and Priscilla his Wife

July 15 1733 Rebekah
 Augst 3^d 1735 William
 May 22 1737 Margaret
 Octo 7 1739 Marget

[123] Baptisms

Children of John Blackmar & Sarah his wife

Augst 12 1733 Branch
 June 6 1736 Sarah
 Ap^l 9 1738 another of y^r Children Baptized

¹ Apparently altered from "Jul."

Children of Elkanah Delano & Mary his wife

Aug st	26	1733	Elkanah, Hannah, Mary
Sep	18	1737	Barzellai

Children of Tho^s Scarrot & Alse his wife

Sep ^r	2	1733	Nathan, Johannah
Aug st	4	1734	Elizabeth

Children of Elizabeth Bagnal Wid^w Since y^e wife of W^m Davis

Octo ^r	7	1733	Hannah
Sep ^r	8	1734	Benjamin

Her Children by Davis

June	15	1735	Samuel
July	16	1737	William
June	18	1738	Lemuel
Aug ^t	12	1739	William

Children of Joseph Churchill & wife

Octo ^r	14	1733	Marcy
Decem	28	1735/6	Marcy

[124] Baptisms

Children of James Landman & wife

Octo ^r	28	1733	Edward
-------------------	----	------	--------

Children of Ebenezar Bartlet & wife

Decem	10	1733	James
Octo ^r	12	1735	Cloe
May	22	1737	Thomas
July	9	1738	Rebekah
Octo	12	1740	Phebe

Children of Timothy Burbank & wife

Decem	23	1733	Isaac
Feb	26	1737/8	Ezra

Children of Abiel Pulciphier & Bethiah his Wife

Decem	23	1733	Joseph
Nov:	3	1734	Abiel

Children of William & Hannah Gammons

June	25	1738	Johannah
June	9	1739	Lydia

[125] Baptisms

Children of Nathanael Leonard (y^e Pas^r) and Priscilla his Wife

Jan ^{ry}	13	1733/4	Daniel
April	6	1735	Mary

July 4 1736 Elizabeth
 Sep^r 11 1737 Ephraim
 Sep^r 17 1738 Mary
 Nov^r 9 1740 Abiel
 Nov^r 22 1741 Marget
 Decem^r 4 1742 George
 Apl 29 1744 Thomas
 Decem^r 1 1745 Phebe

Children of Ebenezer Holmes Ju: &

his wife

Jan^{ry} 20 1733/4 John
 July 13 1735 Elizabeth
 July 16 1737 Nathanael
 June 17 1739 Joseph

Children of Elisha Barrow &

wife

Feb: 24 1733/4 Susannah
 April 6 1735 Deliverance

Children of Micahel Burns &

wife

Decem 3 1738 Elizabeth
 Octo 12 1740 Samuel

Children of Ebenezer Tinkham & Elizabeth his wife

Feb: 24 1733/4 Sarah
 April 18 1736 Ebenezer

Children of Thomas Holmes Jun^r & Elizabeth his wife

Decem^r 4 1742 Thomas, Jemima & Elizabeth

[126] Baptisms

Children of Ebenezer Dunham &

wife

March 17 1733/4 Barnabas
 Augst 15 1736 William

Children of Cornelius Holmes &

wife

March 17 1733/4 Ebenezer
 Feb 1 1735/6 Lydia
 Jan^{ry} 7 1738/9 Priscilla

April 14 1734 This Day I Preached at Freetown and there Baptized
 Rhoda the Daughter of M^r Israel Nicols

Children of Josiah Sturtevant & Hannah his Wife

April 21 1734 Josiah, Charles, Zadoc, William, Hannah, Church, Marcy
 July 7 1734 John

Children of Jacob Johnson &

his wife

May 12 1734 Jacob
 Octo 8 1738 Mary

[127] Baptisms

Children Elkanah Totman & Elizabeth his wife

June	2	1734	Elkanah
Jan:	4	1735/6	Sarah
Apl	16	1738	Elizabeth
June	16	1734	the Wid ^w Ester Gibbs
June	30	1734	Rebeckah the wife of John Case

Children of John Case & Rebeckah his wife

June	30	1734	John
------	----	------	------

Children of Thomas Rogers & wife

Sep ^r	15	1734	Hannah
April	18	1736	Eliazar
Feb	25	1738	Priscilla

Children of Archibald Fisher & Elizabeth his wife

Sep	21		Jean
Octo	15	1738	John

[128] Baptisms

Children of Nehemiah Riply & Sarah his wife

Sep ^r	21	1734	Nehemiah
Decem ^r	15	1734	Levvit
March	27	1737	Levvit
May	20	1739	Sarah
Feb	22	1740/1	Ezra

Children of Caleb Stetson & wife

Nov:		1734	Caleb
Jan ^{ry}	15	1737/8	John

Children of John Clark & Rebeckah his wife

Jan:	12	1734/5	Abigail
Octo	10	1736	Willbore
Apl	21	1739	Mary

Children of John Washburn & wife

Feb	9	1734/6	Mary
Sep	5	1736 ¹	Mercy
May	21	1738	Seth
Nov ^r	4	1739	Phillip

[129] Baptisms

Children of Eliazar Faunce & his wife

April	6	1735	Abigail
-------	---	------	---------

¹ The fourth figure has apparently been altered.

			Children of Benj. Hanks & wife	
April	20	1735	Richard White	
Aug st	22	1736	Uriah	
Nov	5	1738	Benjamin	
Children of Cap ⁿ John Dyer & Hannah his Wife				
May	11	1735	John	
Children of Deacon Thomas Foster & his wife				
June	15	1735	Lois	
March	20	1736/7	Deborah	
Feb	4	1738/9	John	
Aug ^t		1745	Mary	
Children of John & Anna May				
Aug st	17	1737	John	

[130] Baptisms

			Children of Samuel Ryder & his wife	
June	29	1735	Samuel	
March	19	1737/8	Martha	
Children of y ^e Wid ^w Mary Conant				
Sep	21	1735	Charles, & George	
Children of Eleazar Holmes & his Wife				
Sep	21	1735	Joshua	
Children of Thomas Polden & his Wife				
Octo	5	1735	Thomas	
Sep	24		William	
Children of Timothy Barnabe &] wife				
Sep:	24	1738	Ruth	
Children of John Bartlet & Sarah his wife				
Nov:	16	1735	Jerusha	
March	5	1737/8	John	
Decem	1	1745	Abigail	

[131] Baptisms

Decem ^r	14	1735	Baptized Eleven Children of Benjamin & Hannah Ryder viz.	
Children of M ^r Isaac Lathrop Jun ^r & Priscilla his Wife				
Jan ^{ry}	4	1735/6	Isaac	
Decem ^r	4	1737	Nathanael	
Feb	17	1739/40	Thomas	
Nov ^r	28	1742	Caleb	

¹ Written above "Decem," crossed out.

Children of Thomas Spooner & wife			
Jan ¹	4	1735/6	Ephraim
Children of William ² Harlow ³ & wife			
Sep ⁴	12	1736	Seth
Children of Thomas Sears & Elizabeth his wife			
Jan ⁵	18	1735/6	Betty
March	5	1737/8	Rebekah
May	4	1746	Thomas

[132] Baptisms

Children of John Case & Rebekah his wife			
March	14	1735/6	John
Aug st	28	1737	William
Children of Nathanael Thomas Esq ^r & Elizabeth his wife			
Sep ^r	29	1745	John
Children of Lemuel and Lydia Barns			
April	11	1736	Hannah
Sep ^r	11	1737	Lydia
Children of Silas and Mary West			
April	11	1736	Sarah
Feb:	5	1737/8	Silas
Children of Ansel Lothrop & Mary his wife			
Sep ^r	29	1745	Joseph
Children of Joshua and Hannah Finney			
April	11	1736	Joshua, Josiah, Nathanael
May	13	1739	Elkanah
Children of Jacob and Fear Curtis			
April	11	1736	Elizabeth &
July	16	1737	Caleb

[133] Baptisms

Children of John and Mary Ryder			
April	11	1736	Micah
March	26	1738	Hannah
Children of Nicholas and Mary Spinks			
April	18	1736	Nicholas

¹ "Decem" is crossed out before "Jan."² Written above "John," crossed out.³ Here "Jun^r" is crossed out.⁴ The words "Jan^{ry} 10 1735/6 Ebenezer" are crossed out before "Sep."

Children of Lemuel Jackson & Ester his wife

Augst 13 1738 Lemuel

Children of Lazarus and Lydia Le Baron

May 16 1736 Lazarus, Joseph, Lydia, Mary, Hannah

June 26 1736 Terris

Apl 30 1738 Bartlet

(By a Second Wife Lydia)

Jan^{ry} 29 1743/4 Isaac

Children of Nathanael Dunham Jun^r

May 16 1736 Elijah

Ap^l 1 1739 Elizabeth

[134] Baptisms

Children of Nathanael Foster and Marcy his Wife

May 30 1736 Mary

Decem 4 1737 Marcy

Augst 12 1739 Nathanael

Nov^r 16 1740 John

May 30 1736 Two Grandchildren of Eleazar & Ammi Rogers by their
Daughter Lewin Deceased John & Mariah

May 30 1736 The Child of Bridget M^cCabe

Children of Francis & Jane Allen

June 6 1736 Francis &¹ Jenny

Children of Francis & Elizabeth Curtis Jun^r

July 11 1736 two Children viz

Augst 12 1739 Elizabeth

The Child of Sarah Faunce Deceas^d

July 11 1736 Jabez

Children of Benjamin and Pheobe Rogers

July 11 1736 Two Children viz: John &

[135] Baptisms

Children of Rich^d and Mary Wait

July 18 1736 ———

Apr 8 1739 Thomas

Children of Walter & Rebekah Rich

July 18 1736 ———

July 31 1737 Mary

Augst 12 1739 Rebekah

¹ Here the letters "Ja" are crossed out.

Children of Thomas & Priscilla Savory
 Augst 15 1736 Thomas
 May 13 1739 Priscilla

Children of John and Lydia Godard
 Augst 15 1736 John
 May 21 1738 Sarah
 Sep 29 1745 Benjamin

Children of John Barnes Jun^r & Dorcas his Wife
 Sep 5 1736 John, Lemuel, Corban & Mary

[136] Baptisms

Children of John Murdock¹ Esq^r & Pheobe his wife
 Sep^r 12 1736 Pheobe

Children of Josiah Carver & Marcy his wife
 Sep^r 12 1736 Dorothy
 Augst 6 1738 Mercy
 Sep 28 1740 Nathanael

Children of John & Remembrance Withred
 Sep 18 1736
 Apl 9 1738 another of y^r Children Baptized

Children of Joseph Bartlet Tertius &
 Sep^r 18 1736
 Sep 10 1738 Mercy

Children of Joshua Sherman & Deborah his wife
 Octo 3² 1736 Joshua
 Sep^r 9 1737 Ephraim
 Augst 20 1738 Nathanael

Children of Robert & Rebekah Bartlet
 Octo: 3 1736 Robert

Children of James and Hannah Rickard
 Octo: 3 1736 James, John, Benjamin, Lothrop, & William
 March 13 1736/7 Hannah

[137] Baptisms

Children of Benjamin and Experiance Lothrop
 Oc^{to} 3 1736 John & Benjamin
 May 15 1737 Thomas
 Decem 31 1738/9 Nathanael
 Feb 8 1740/1 Joseph

¹ Perhaps "Murdoch."

² Here the letter "J" is crossed out.

Children of Flora a Negro woman belonging to M^r Isaac Lothrop Jun^r

Octo 3 1736 Dan & Nanne
 March 19 1737/8 Jenne

Children of Elisha Cob & Priscilla his wife

Octo 10 1736
 Decem 4 1737 Lydia

Children of Nathan & Johanna Cob

Octo: 17 1736 William
 May 15 1737 Elizabeth
 Apl 21 1739 Deborah

Children of Jabez & Holmes

Octo: 31 1736 Rebekah
 July 2 1738 Jabez

[138] Baptisms

Two Children of M^{rs} Hannah Dyer (Wife of Cap^t John Dyer) by her first Husband M^r Thomas Morton ter: Baptized Decem: 19 1736 viz Bathsheba & Sarah

Jan^{ry} 2 1736/7 Four Children of Samuel & Sarah Nelson viz Bathsheba, Samuel Nichols, Ebenezar & Patiance

Children of Michael Burns & his wife

Feb 6 1736/7 Margeret

Children of Ephraim & Priscilla Churchill

Feb: 27 1736/7 Mary, Charles & Zacheus
 July 31 1737 Ephraim
 Jan^{ry} 27 1739/40 Priscilla
 Ap^l 7 1745 Ansel

Children of Joseph Bartlet Jun^r & his Wife

March 20 1736/7 Sarah
 Nov 19 1738 Joseph

Children of Samuel Bartlet Esqr & Elizabeth his wife

Ap^l 17 1737 Margaret

Children of Samuel & Mary King Jun^r

May 15 1737 Seth
 Ap^l 1 1739 Marcy & Mary

[139] Baptisms

Children of Jonathan & Pheobe Barnes

May 22 1737 Margaret & Jonathan
 Decem^r 15 1745 John

Children of John Atwood Jun^r &July 3^d 1737Augst 12 1739 John

Children of Samuel & Lydia Morton

July 3^d 1737March 26 1738 Sarah¹

July 3^d 1737 the Grand Child of M^r John Faunce & Faunce the Son of
M^r Jabez Hammond of Rochester were Baptized

Children of Nathanael &

Churchill

July 31 1737

Jan^{ry} Eleazar

Mary

Children of Ebenezer & Jane Tinkham

Decem 4 1737

Mary

May 20 1739

Mary

[140] Church Records. Baptisms

Children of Benjamin & Experiance Cornish

1738 April 9

Four Children Baptized viz Benjamin &c

1738 Apl 30

Four Children of Rebekah Holmes Wid^w

Children of James & Nanne Negroes

1738 May 7

Jamme

Sep 28 1740

Flora

Children of Elisha Holmes Jun^r²1738 Augst 13

Susannah. the other³ of his Children I Baptized at
Monument

Children of Charles & Luce Dyre

1738 Augst 28Charles⁴Ap^l 5 1741

Luce

1745 Decem^r 15

Barrot

Children of John Kempton &

his wife

1738 Sep^r 3

Jerusha

1740 July 27

John

Children of William & Hannah Dyre

1738 Sep 10

Hannah

Children of Joseph & Sarah Swift

1738 Sep^r 10

Marcy

¹ Here "Children" is crossed out.² This word has been altered.³ Written above "rest," crossed out.⁴ Here some words are crossed out.

[141] Baptisms

Children of Simion & Sarah Totman

May 13 1739 Isaac

Children of Tho^s Withrel jun^r & Elizabeth his Wife

May 27 1739 Hannah

Decem 4 1742 Thomas

Children of Nathanael & Lydia Bosworth

June 17 1739 Lydia

Children of Nathanael & Martha Freeman

July 1 1739 Anna

Children of Nathanael & Lydia Shurtleff

Nov^r 25 1739 NathanaelChildren of Benj^a & Elizabeth Carter

1739/40 March 9 Benjamin

[142] Church Records

Children of James & Hannah Cushman

1740 Ap^l 2^d James1741 Sep^r 27 A Child of David Sturtevant1741 Nov^r 22 A Child of James Cook viz ElishaChildren of Elkanah & Elizabeth¹ Morton1740 Augst 10 Elkanah, Betty & PheobeChildren of Joseph Ryder Jun^r & Elizabeth1740 Augst 10 Hannah

Children of Benjamin & Elizabeth Harlow

1740 Augst 10 Keziah

Children of Samuel & Experiance Totman

1740 Nov^r 9 Experiance

Children of Jonathan & Thankful Bartlet

174 Nov^r 23 James & SarahChildren of² Nathanael Jackson Jun^rJan^{ry} 11 MaryChildren of M^r Edward & Hannah WinslowSep^r 27 1741 John

Decem 20 1741 Nanne a Negro Girl of Deacon Fosters

¹ Written above "Sarah," crossed out.² Here the words "Samuel & Experiance" are crossed out.

[143] Chh Records

Children of Isaac & Mary Doten

Octo 11 3 Children

Children of John Nelson

May 23 1742

Children of Content Merifield

June 6 1742

Children of Asa Beal

June 1742

Children of Theophilus Cotton & Martha his Wife

1744 July 15 Theophilus. John

Children of Jonathan Churchil

1744/5 March 24 Jonathan

1745 Ap^l 7 Edward the Son of Edward & Jerusha Sparrow

[144] Baptisms

Children of Jonathan Bishop & Mary his Wife

Octo 27 1745 Jonathan

Children of Thomas Faunce 3th & Sarah his Wife

Octo 27 1745 Thomas

Children of Josiah Churchil his Wife

Decem^r 1 1745 ThaddeusChildren of M^r John Watson & Elizabeth his WifeDecem^r 15 1745 Elizabeth

[145] Baptisms

Anno 1747

Ap^l 5 Joseph the Son of Joseph & Rebecca Fulgham26 Micah the Son of John Atwood Jun^r & wifeMay 3 { Joshua y^e Son of Robert Bartlet
{ Martha y^e Daugh^r of Martha Swinnerton10 { Hannah y^e Daugh^r of Levi Stephens{ Priscilla y^e Daugh^r of Silvanus Cob24 Caleb y^e Son of Amaziah Churchil{ William the son of W^m German31 { Priscilla y^e Daughter of Ch^s Morton{ Hannah y^e Daughter of Jacob CurtisJune 21 { Luce Daugh^r of Zeph^h Holmes{ Zadoc Son of Stephen Churchil Jun^r

July 26 Isaac Son of Isaac Atwood & wife

Augst 2^d { Priscilla the Daüter of Isaac Lothrop Esq^r & wife

{ Nathanael the Son of John Ryder & wife

	30	{ John y ^e Son of M ^r John Watson & Elizabeth his Wife Elizabeth the Daüter ¹ of Benjamin Harlow & wife
Sep ^r	6	Lemuel y ^e Son of Doc: Lazarus LeBaron & Lydia his Wife
	13	Elizabeth y ^e Daüter of Jo[nal]than Eames & wife
	20	Joseph y ^e Son of John Waterman & wife
	27	Ester y ^e Daüter of Ebenezar Holmes & wife
Octo ^r	4	Mary y ^e Daüter of William Swift & Wife Mem ^{brs} of y ^e Second Chh in Sandwich
Nov ^r	1	Rebekah y ^e Daüter of William Churchil & wife
	29	a Child of Josiah Churchil & wife
Decem	13	Nathanael y ^e Son of Nathanael Churchill & Wife

Anno 1748

Jan ^{ry}	24	Joseph y ^e Son of Joseph & Sarah LeBaron
March	6	{ Elizabeth y ^e Daughter of Nath ^l & Anna Torrey Hannah y ^e Daughter of Gideon White
March	13	Nathanael & Anna Twins of Thomas Spooner Jun ^r & wife
	20	{ Lucy y ^e Daughter of Charles Dyre & Wife Mercy y ^e Daughter of Timothy Burbank & Wife Hannah y ^e Daughter Jireh Fish & Wife
	27	{ John y ^e Son of John Howard & Eunice his Wife Ebenezar y ^e Son of Thomas Ward & wife
Ap ^l	10	{ Maria y ^e Daughter of John Bartlet & wife John y ^e Son of Edward Doten & wife Nanne the Daughter of James & Nanne (Negros)
	17	William the Son of Ansel Lothrop & wife
	4	James y ^e Son of Samuel King Jun ^r & Wife

[146] 1748 Baptisms

May	8	{ Marget the Daughter of Abraham Jackson & wife Nathanael y ^e Son of Nathanael Morton & wife Rowland y ^e Son of Theophilus Cotton & wife
June	19	Lydia y ^e Daughter of John Harlow Jun ^r & wife
July	10	the Son of Azariah Wilten & Rebekah his Wife
	17	John y ^e Son of Ephraim Churchil & Wife
	24	{ Thadeus y ^e Son of Thomas Faunce Jun ^r & Wife Joseph y ^e Son of Joseph Churchil & wife Ichabod y ^e Son of John Thomas & wife
	31	{ Sarah y ^e Daughter of Thomas & Abijah Wright Nathanael y ^e Son of Nathanael Bradford & Wife
Aug st	7	{ Willard y ^e Son of Thomas Sears & wife Willis y ^e Son of Samuel Barrow & wife
	14	Thomas the Son of Thomas Burgess & wife
	21	Charles y ^e Son of Eliakim Tupper & wife
	28	George y ^e Ebenezar Samson & wife
Sep ^r	11	Samuel y ^e Son of Thomas Holmes & Elizabeth his wife
	18	John y ^e Son of Lemuel Barns & wife
Octo	3	{ Mary y ^e Daughter of John Kempton & wife Mary y ^e Daughter of W ^m German & wife

¹ Written above "Son," crossed out.

Nov ^r	6	{ Susanna y ^e Daughter of Eben ^r Tinkham & wife
	20	{ Edward y ^e Son of Ed ^w Stephens Jun ^r & wife
Decem ^r	18	Asenah y ^e Daüter of Benjamin Delano & wife
	25	Molly y ^e Daüter of Tho ^s Jackson & wife
		Asa y ^e Son of Eleazar Churchill jun ^r & wife
1749		
Jan ^{ry}	18 ¹	Robert ² & Anne ³ Children of Amos Dunham & Anne his wife
Feb ^{ry}	5	Thankful y ^e Daüter of Nath ^l Shurtleff & wife
	12	{ Abner y ^e Son of Nathanael Dunham & wife
	19	{ Elizabeth y ^e Daüter of Amaziah Churchill & wife
	26	{ Elizabeth y ^e Daüter of Thomas Mayhew & wife
March	5	Sarah ⁴ y ^e Daughter of Joseph & Sarah Le baron
	19 ⁵	William y ^e Son of John Atwood Jun ^r & wife
	26	Susannah y ^e Daüter of Joshua Swift & wife
		Jonathan y ^e Son of Elkanah Delano & wife
Ap ^l	16	Jean y ^e Daüter of Isaac Doten & Mary his Wife

[147] Baptisms 1749

Ap ^l	30	Mordecai the Son of W ^m Churchill & Wife
May	28	Salome y ^e Daughter of Deacon Foster
June	11	{ Ruth y ^e Daüter of Thomas Savery & wife
		{ Caleb y ^e Son of Stephen Churchill jun ^r & wife
	18	{ Hannah y ^e Daüter of Nathanael Foster & wife
		{ Ester y ^e Dauter of John Waterman & wife
		{ Charles the Son of Joseph Foulgham & wife
July	2 ^d ⁶	Ebenezar the Son of Ebenezar Churchill & wife
Aug st	20	Hannah y ^e Daüghter of Silas Morton & wife
		{ Samuel y ^e Son of Samuel Bartlet Esq ^r & wife
Sep ^r	10	{ Francis the Son of Doc. Laz ^s Lebaron & wife
		{ Daniel the Son of Cap ^t John Watson & wife
	17	{ James y ^e Son of Robert Bartlet & wife
		{ Dorcas y ^e Daüter of Joseph Bishop & wife
	24	George y ^e Son of G: Watson & Wife
Octo	1	Patience y ^e Daüter of John Howland & wife
	29	Mary y ^e Daüter of William Torrey & wife
Nov ^r	5	William y ^e Son of Josiah Bradford & wife
	12	{ Joseph y ^e Son of Nath ^l Jackson & wife
		{ Elizabeth y ^e Daüter of Eben ^r Dogget & wife
	26	William y ^e Son of William & Johanah Foster
Decem ^r	3	Hannah y ^e Daughter of Deacon Jos: Bartlet & wife
	10	Mary y ^e Daüter of Lemuel Bartlet & wife

¹ Altered from "15," or perhaps "15" altered from "8."² Written over another name.³ Here "Dunham" is crossed out.⁴ Written above "Elizabeth," crossed out.⁵ The second figure in this date has apparently been altered.⁶ This date has been altered.

	17	{ Jonathan & Zacheus Sons of Jireh Fish & wife
		{ Ring y ^e Son of Caleb Sherman & wife
	24	Waite y ^e Son of Isaac Atwood & wife
Jan ^{ry}	21	{ Phebe y ^e Daüter of Edward Stevens ¹ Jun ^r & wife
		{ Samuel y ^e Son of Jonathan Churchill & wife
Feb ^{ry}	3	Josiah y ^e Son of Josiah Churchill & wife
	18	Bethiah y ^e Daughter of Theophilus Cotton & wife
March	21	Thomas y ^e Son of Thomas Ewer & wife

1750

Ap ^l	1	{ David y ^e Son of Timothy Burbank & wife
		{ Rebecca y ^e Daüter of Jonathan Eames Jun ^r & wife
	15	{ Deborah y ^e Daughter of Zeph: Holmes & wife
		{ Amaziah y ^e Son of Amaziah Churchill & wife
	22	Thankful the Daüter of Jonathan Bartlet & wife
May	6	Isaac y ^e Son of Lemuel Barnes & wife
June	24	Elizabeth Daüter of Robens & wife
	25	Experiance y ^e Daüter of John Blackmar & wife
July	8	{ Salvanus y ^e Son of Eleaz ^r Churchill Jun ^r & wife
		{ Deborah y ^e Daughter of John Kempton & wife
		{ Lydia y ^e Daüter of Ansel Lothrop & wife
	22	{ David y ^e Son of Jabez Holmes & wife
		{ Samuel the Son of Samuel Marshal Jun ^r & wife

[148] Baptisms Anno Dom 1750

Aug ^t	5	{ Nathanael y ^e Son of Nath ^l Morton & wife
		{ John y ^e Son of Edw ^d Doten & wife
	19	{ Benjamin & William y ^e Children of Benj ^a Churchill
		{ the Child of John Ryder & wife
		{ James a Negro Child of M ^r Brown's Negro Woman Flora
	26	{ Michael the Son of John Bartlet & wife
		{ Luce y ^e Daughter of Joseph Churchill & Wife
Sep ^r	16	Sarah y ^e Daughter of N Foster & wife
Octo	7	Susanna y ^e Daughter of Sam ^l Marshal Jun ^r & wife
	14	{ Nathaniel the Son of Nath ^l Torrey & wife
		{ Abner y ^e Son of Benj ^a Churchill & wife
Nov ^r	18	James y ^e Son of John Howard & wife
Decem ^r	2	Flora y ^e Daughter of Dolphin & Flora (Negroes)

1751

Jan ^{ry}	6 th	Lydia y ^e Daughter of Thomas Faunce & wife
		Amos y ^e Son of Amos Dunham & wife
	27	Joshua y ^e Son of Will ^m Thomas & wife
Feb ^{ry}	3	{ Mary y ^e Daüter of Deacon Tho ^s Foster & wife
		{ William y ^e Son of W ^m Churchill & wife
	10	Eliphaz y ^e Son of Josiah Churchil & wife

¹ Written above "Doty," crossed out.

	24	{ Daughter of Robert Bartlet & wife
		{ Lemuel y ^e Son of Nath ^l Bradford & wife
Ap ^l	14	Sarah y ^e Daüter of John Atwood Jun ^r & wife
	21	Samuel y ^e Son of Samuel Bartlet Esqr & wife
May	12	Susanna y ^e Daughter of Deacon Rob ^t Harlow & Wife
	19	John y ^e Son of Eias Trask & wife
	26	Sarah y ^e Daüter of Eben ^r Samson & wife
June	16	Sarah y ^e Daüter of Jeremiah Hows & wife
		William the Son of Isaac Doten & wife
	30	Nathanael y ^e Son of Nathanael Shurtleff & wife
July	7	Priscilla y ^e Daughter of Sam ^l Rogers & Wife
	14	Joannah ¹ y ^e Daughter of Joshua Swift & wife
	21	Hannah y ^e Daüter of Josiah Bradford & wife
	28	{ Levi the Son of Mary Stevens Wid ^w
		{ George the Son of John Bartlet & wife
		{ William the Son of Doc Lazarus Lebaron & wife
Aug st	11	{ Timothy the Son of James Swinnerton & wife
		{ Bathshebah y ^e Daughter of Eben ^r Dogget & wife
	17	Abigail & Hannah Children of Tho ^s Torry & Wife
	24	{ Abigail y ^e granddaughter of Sam ^l Kempton & wife
		{ the Child of Eben ^r Bartlet & wife

[149] Baptisms

Sep ^r	29	1751	Nathanael the Son Nath ^l Foster & wife
			{ Bethiah y ^e Daughter of John Waterman & wife
Nov ^r 2	3		{ William y ^e Son of W ^m Torrey & wife
			{ Elizabeth y ^e Daüter of Amaziah Churchill & wife
			{ Hannah y ^e Daughter of Caleb Sherman & wife
Nov	17		Hannah y ^e Daüter of Tho ^s Ewer & wife
Decem	1		Samuel y ^e Son of John Foster & wife
	8		William y ^e Son of Thomas Mayhew & Wife
	15		{ William Crow y ^e Son of Theophilus Cotton & wife
			{ James y ^e Son of Tho ^s Savery & wife
	21 ^s		Branch y ^e Son of Eben ^r Churchill & wife

January 1752

			{ William the Son of Thomas Holmes Jun ^r & wife
Jan ^{ry}	19		{ Zacheus the Son of Isaac Atwood & wife
			{ Huldah the Daughter of Delano & wife
Feb	16		Samuel y ^e Son of John Kempton & wife
	23		Grace y ^e Daüter of Jonathan Eames Jun ^r & wife
March	8		Amaziah y ^e Son of John King jun ^r & wife
Ap ^l	5		Lydia y ^e Daüter of Jireh Fish & wife
	19		{ Lemuel y ^e Son of Lemuel Jackson & wife
			{ Elkanah y ^e Son of Elkanah Delano & wife
May	10		Sarah y ^e Daüter of Eleazer Robins & wife

¹ Here "Swift" is crossed out.² Written over "Octo," or perhaps "Octo" written over "Nov^r."³ The second figure in this date is uncertain.

	31	Bashebeth y ^e Daûter of Joseph Shurtleff & wife
June	28	Abigail the Daughter of Abigail Harlow wife of Eleazar Harlow
July	12	Silas y ^e Son of Silas Morton & wife
	26	Haviland y ^e Son of John Torrey & wife
Aug st	9	Ephraim y ^e Son of John Thomas & wife
Sep ^r	24	{ Micah y ^e Son of John Rider & wife Abigail the Daughter Benj ^a Churchill & wife
Octo	15	Margaret y ^e Daûter of Alse Scarrot
Nov ^r	5	Samuel y ^e Son of Samuel Rogers & wife

53

Jan ^{ry}	21	{ Sarah y ^e Daûter of Thomas Mayhew Samuel y ^e Son of John Waterman
	28	Martha y ^e Daûter of John Howard
		{ Seth y ^e Son of Deacon Thomas Foster Esq Josiah y ^e Son of Rob ^t Bartlet
Feb	18	{ Ruth y ^e Daughter of Amos Donham Bartlet the Son of Samuel Marshall
March	4	Abigail the Daûter of Nathanael Foster
	11	
	18	{ Margeret the Daûter of Willim Thomas Hannah the Daûter Abijah Write

[150] 1753 Baptisms

Ap ^l	1	Rebecca y ^e Dauter of Wm Gammons
Raynham		{ Elizabeth y ^e Daûter of Timothy Fales Esq ^r & Elizabeth his wife Prudence y ^e Daûter of John Robinson & wife
Ap ^l	8	
Ap ^l	15	Faith y ^e Daûter of Amaziah Churchill & wife
	22	Sarah y ^e Daûter of Tho ^s Faunce & wife
May	6	Elijah y ^e Son of Benj ^a Delano & wife
	31	Abigail y ^e Daûter of Silvanus Morton & wife
June	30	Alpheus y ^e Son of Josiah Churchill & wife
		{ Huldah y ^e Daughter of Jabez Holmes & wife Zacheus y ^e Son of John Harlow Jun ^r & wife
July	15	{ Sarah y ^e Dauter of Thomas Holmes Jun ^r Abigail the Dauter Tho ^s Harlow & wife
	22 ^d	Mary & Susannah (Twins) y ^e Daûters of Wm Churchil & wife
	29	{ Lydia y ^e Daûter of Eben ^r Samson & wife Sarah y ^e Daûter of Caleb Sherman & wife
		{ Priscilla y ^e Daûter of Doc Lazarus Lebaron & wife Mary y ^e Daûter of Nath ^l Churchil & wife
Aug	5	{ Nanne y ^e Daûter of Dolphin & Flora Negro's Elizabeth y ^e Daûter of Samuel Bartlet Esq ^r & wife
	19	Lemuel y ^e Son of Ed ^w Doten & wife
Nov	23	{ The Wid ^w Sarah Bramhall Baptized at her own House with her Children Edmund & Joseph
	25	Barnabas y ^e Son of Nah ^l Jackson & wife
		{ Josiah y ^e Son of Theophilus Cotton & wife Zacheus y ^e Son of John Kempton & wife
Decem ^r	9	{ Anne y ^e Daûter of Wm Torrey & wife

16	William the Son of Nath ^l Shurtleff & wife
30	{ Samuel y ^e Son of Elias Trask & wife { Marcy y ^e Daüter of Josiah Torrey & wife

1754

Jan ^{ry}	12	{ Thomas y ^e Son of John Waterman & wife { Lydia y ^e Daüter of Isaac Atwood & wife
Feb ^{ry}	10	{ Josiah y ^e Son of Samuel Harlow & wife { Jabez y ^e Son of Jabez Harlow ¹ & wife { John y ^e Son of Charles Morton & wife
March	17	{ Anna y ^e Daüter of John May & wife { Bathsheba y ^e Daüter of Barow & wife
April	4	Sarah y ^e Daüter of Tho ^s Spooner Jun ^r
	14	Isaac y ^e Son of Jonathan Eames jun ^r & wife
	21	Mary y ^e Daüter of Maj ^r George Watson & wife
	28	John y ^e Son of John King & wife

[151] 1754 Baptisms

May	12	Rebekah y ^e Daüter of Isaac Doten & wife
June	30	Jean y ^e Daüter of Lemuel Bartlet & wife
July	7	{ Gershom y ^e Son of Nath ^l Foster & wife { Marcy y ^e Daüter of Joshua Swift & wife
	21	{ Hannah y ^e Daüter of Samuel Rogers & wife { Nathan y ^e Son of David Curtis & wife
	28	Luce y ^e Daüter of Tho ^s Torrey & wife
Aug st	4	{ Samuel y ^e Son of Josiah Churchill & wife { Elizabeth y ^e Daüter of John Philips & wife
		{ Joanna y ^e Daüter of John Atwood & wife
Sep ^r	1 ²	{ Ansel y ^e Son of Tho ^s Holmes & wife { Ebenezar y ^e Son of Eben ^{sr} Dagget & wife
		{ Timothy & Son of Silas Morton & wife
	15	Joseph y ^e Son of Josiah Torrey & wife
	22	{ John y ^e Son of John Torrey & wife { Ebenezar the Son of Jonathan Bishop & wife
Octo	6	Priscilla y ^e Daüter of Nath ^l Torrey & wife
	20 ³	Stephen y ^e Son of Benjamin Churchil & wife
Nov ^r	24	{ Charles & Priscilla y ^e Children of John Bartlet & wife { Bethiah y ^e Daüter of Ebenezar Churchil & wife

1755

Jan ^{ry}	5	Pheobe the Daüter of John Ryder & Wife
	19	{ Joseph y ^e Son of William Thomas & Wife { Ebenz ^r y ^e Son of John Howard & Wife
Feb ^r	16	Priscilla y ^e Daüter of Tho ^s Wright & Wife
March	23	Mary y ^e Daüter of Amo ^s Donham & Wife

¹ Written above "Holmes," crossed out.² This figure is uncertain.³ This date has been altered.

	30	{ Sarah y ^e Daûter of Elieazar Churchill & Wife Ruth y ^e Daûter of Tho ^s Savery & Wife
Ap ^l	20	{ Caleb y ^e Son of Robert Bartlet & Wife Elizabeth y ^e Daûter of Amaziah Churchill & Wife Josiah & Patience Children of Josiah Johnson & Wife
May	4	Job y ^e Son of Deacon Foster & Wife
	25	Sarah y ^e Daûter of John Kempton & Wife
June	8	Mary the Daûter of Ebenezar Samson & Wife
	22	William the Son of Harlow & Wife
July	13	{ Margeret y ^e Daûter of M ^r Lazarus Lebaron & Wife Hannah y ^e Dauter of Benjamin Delano & Wife
	20	Pompey y ^e Son of James & Nanne Negroes
Aug st	3	Priscilla y ^e Daûter of Eben ^r Tinkham & Wife
	10	{ Lothrop y ^e Son of Samuel Bartlet Esq ^r & Wife William y ^e Son of Thomas Mayhew & Wife Ansel the Son of Thomas Faunce & Wife John y ^e of John Phillips & Wife

[152] 1755 Baptisms

Aug st	17	{ Priscilla y ^e Daûter of Samuel Marshall jun ^r & Wife Elizabeth y ^e Daûter of Caleb Shearman & Wife
Sep ^r	7	Lazarus y ^e Son of John Harlow jun ^r & Wife
	14	Lemuel y ^e Son of Edw ^d Doten ¹ & Wife
Octo	5	Hannah y ^e Daûter of Nath ^l Foster & Wife
Nov ^r	16	James y ^e Son of Silvanus Morton & Wife
	23	Joseph y ^e Son of W ^m Torrey & Wife
	30	Sarah y ^e Daûter of Nath ^l Shurtleff & Wife
Decm ^r	7	Eleazar y ^e Son of Josiah Johnson & Wife
	14	Ebenezar y ^e Son of Ebenezar Spooner & Wife

1756

Jan ^{ry}	4	Jabez y ^e Son of Isaac Doten & Wife
Feb	29	Josiah y ^e Son of Josiah Torrey & Wife
March	28	Stephen ² y ^e Son of Benj ^a Churchil & Wife
May	2	{ Experiance ³ y ^e Daûter of Jabez Harlow & Wife Jabez Susannah
	23 ^d	Samuel & Elizabeth the Children of Samuel Landman John Son of John & Bathsheba May ⁴
	30	Marston ⁵ the Son of M ^r Elkanah Watson & Wife Baptized by the Rev ^d M ^r Dodge
June	20	Betty, Salvanus, Molly & Abner, 4 Children of Salvanus Bart- let & Wife Baptized by the Rev ^d M ^r Conant ⁶

¹ Altered from "Doty."² Here "Church" is crossed out.³ "Jabez" is crossed out before "Experiance."⁴ This entry is in the hand of Mr. Robbins.⁵ The letters "Elk" are crossed out before "Marston."⁶ This name is obscure.

	28	{ Elizabeth y ^e Daüter of Deacon John Torrey & Wife Joseph y ^e Son of John King & Wife
July	4	Thomas y ^e Son of Thomàs Spooner Jun ^r & Wife
	11	Anne y ^e Daüter of Nathanael Torrey & Wife
Aug st	29	Charles the Son of Josiah Bradford & Wife
		{ The Children of M ^r Thomas Foster jun ^r & Mercey his Wife Luce Thomas Priscilla & George
Nov	14	{ Rebekah the Daughter of Eben ^r Churchill & Wife Sarah the Dâter of Sam ^l Rogers & Wife
Decem ^r	26	
Jan ^{ry}	23 1757	Joshua the son of Joshua Swift & Wife
Feb	20	{ Priscilla the Daughter of Charles Morton & Wife Luce the Daughter of Amaziah Churchill & Wife

[153] Baptisms 1757

March	6	Betty the Daughter of Thomas Mayhew & wife
March	13	Eunice the Daughter of Deacon Foster & wife
March	27	Priscilla the Daughter of John Kempton & wife
Ap ^l	10	Betty the Daüter of Nath ^l Foster & Wife
	17	Hannah Daüter of Samuel Bartlet Esq ^r & Wife

After the Pastor Removed to Norton Anno 1757 At Sundry times when he Visited this Church & People He Baptized their Children, sometimes Administred the Lords Supper & once preached to them

Jan^{ry} 27 1760 Baptized Deborah the Daughter of William Torrey & wife

O that all these Children may find their names written in the Lambs Book of Life Amen¹

Since² there were many Children baptiz'd after M^r Leon^{ds} Removal — y^t are not before recorded — I shall record y^m here thô not in their due Order — & the above³ that were baptizd by me I shall insert hereafter⁴ — C. Robbins.

¹ Here the entries in Mr. Leonard's hand cease.

² Beginning here, the entries on pp. [153-206] of the text—or pp. 451-510 of these volumes—are in the hand of the Rev. Chandler Robbins. Between the word "Since" and the previous word "Amen," the following entry has been crossed out:

Children baptized p^r me Chandler Robbins as follows

Baptisms

Feb ^r 3 ^r 1760	{ Diman Son to Ebenezer & Abig ^l Bartlett Hannah Daughter of Jonath ⁿ & Hannah Churchill
Feb. 10 th	Rebecca Daughter of Jabez & Experience Harlowe
	{ Rebecca Daughter of Joshua & Jane Swift John Son to John & Mercey Russell
Feb. 24 th	{ James Son to John & Mercey Russell Philemon Son to Deac ⁿ Th ^s & Mary Foster
March 9 th	

³ See the note preceding this.

⁴ See the top of p. [155] of the text, or p. 452 of this volume.

April 9 th	1758	{ Rosseter Son to M ^r John & M ^{rs} Hannah Cotton Seth Son to Dea ⁿ Thomas Foster & Mary his Wife (See below.) ¹ }	by Rev ^d M ^r Patten
May	8 th 1757	Thomas Son to Ebenezer & Abigail Bartlett	by Rev ^d M ^r Sproutt
	1758	Sarah Daughter of John & Bathsheba May	by Rev ^d M ^r Stone
		Enos the Son of Josiah & Patience Churchill	
Ap ^l	9	58	Benja ^a Son to Eben ^r & Mary Sampson — M ^r Patten
Aug.	27	1757	Mary — Daug ^r to John & Eunice Howard — M ^r Howland
Nov.	18	59	Eunice Daug ^r of John & Eunice Howard — M ^r Bacon
July	31	1757	George Son of Co ^{ll} George & Eliz. Watson, bapt ^d p M ^r Bacon
March	15	1759	Sarah Daught ^r of Co ^{ll} George & Eliz. Watson — M ^r Bacon

[154²] [155] An Account of Baptisms as follows p^r me
Chandler Robbins

Feb.	3 ^d	1760	{ Diman Son to Eben ^r & Abigail Bartlett Hannah Daught ^r of Jonathan & Hannah Churchill }	
Feb.	10 th		Rebecca Daughter of Jabez & Experience Harlowe	
Feb ^r	24 th		{ Rebecca Daught ^r of Joshua & Jane Swift John & James Children of John & Mary Russell }	
March	9 th		Philemon Son To D ^a Tho ^s & Mary Foster	
April	20		Rebecca Daughter of Lemuel & Marah Bartlett	
April	27		Mary Daughter of Amaziah & Elisabeth Churchill	
May	4 th		{ Zeuba Daughter of Elisha & Esther Vaughn } Middle-	
			{ Samuel Son to Zechariah & Mercy Eddy } borough	
May	25 th		Benjamin Son to Ebenezer & Hannah ³ Sampson	
June	15		{ Deborah & } Daughters of Samuel & Deborah Dagget	
			{ Katherine }	
June	22 ^d		Leonard Son to Nathaniel & Anna Torrey	
July	6		Silvanus Son to Silvanus & Mary Morton	
			{ Job Son to Silas & Martha Morton Rebecca }	
July	13		{ Dan ^l & } Children of Daniel & Eliz th Diman	
			{ David }	
Aug st	3 ^d		Lucy Mayhew Daughter of Tho ^s & Mary Mayhew	
Aug st	17		{ Churchill Mindall Son of Amaz ^h & Elisab th Churchill Marshall Betty Daughter of Sam ^{ll} & Susannah Marshall }	
Aug st	31		Diman Elizabeth Daught ^r of Daniel & Eliz th Diman	
Sep ^r	28		Atwood Mary Daughter of John & Joanna Atwood	
Oct ^r	5 th		Watson Priscilla Daugh ^r of Elk ^h & Patience Watson	
			{ Young Sam ^{ll} Son to John & Eunice Young }	at
N. B. Aug st	10		{ Harris James Son to Benj. & Sarah Harris Robinson Isaac Son to Joseph & Hannah Robinson }	Bridg-
				water
Oct ^r	12 th		Cotton Joanna Daughter of M ^r John & M ^{rs} Hannah Cotton by M ^r Patten	

¹ Here the words "to Sampson — all" are crossed out.

² P. [154] is blank.

³ Written above "Mary," crossed out.

Oct ^r	26 th	Tobey Mehitable Daught ^r of John & Mary Tobey at Sand- wich	
Nov ^r	16	Faunce Stephen Son to Thomas & Sarah Faunce	
Nov ^r	23 ^d	Torrey Isaac Son to Thomas & Abigail Torrey	
Dec ^r	28	Churchill Nathan Son to Benjamin &	Churchill

1761]

1761

March	29	{ Fuller Asa Son to Abiel Fuller & Wife Fuller Amos Son to Amos Fuller & his Wife }	Plympton
April	19	Churchil George Son to Eben ^r &	Churchill
May	3 ^d	{ Morton Mercy Daught ^r of Nath ^l & Nath ^l Morton } Children of Nath ^l Morton Jun ^r & Re- Meriah Morton } becca his Wife	Morton
May	19	{ Stevens Betty Mary Priscilla Jesse } Children of Benj ⁿ & Betty Rider	at Mon ^t Ponds
		{ Anne Daugh ^r of James & Hannah Clark Lydia Daugh ^r of Eben ^r & Meriah Harlowe }	
June	7 th	Churchill Francis Son to Jon ^{ath} & Hannah Churchill	

[156] 1761 Baptisms

July	26	1761	Hinckley Thomas Son to Thomas & Phebe Hinckley	
Aug st	9 th		May William Son to Jn ^o & Bathsheba May	
Sept	13 th		Goodwin { Nath ^l Lydia John Lazarus William Thomas Mercy Robie }	Children of Nath ^l & Lydia Goodwin
Sept	25 th		Davie Sarah Wife of Thom ^s Davie baptiz ^d on a Sick Bed upon entr ^e into Cov ^t	
October	18 th		Russell Thomas Son of John & Mercy Russell	
Octob ^r	25		Spooner Bethiah Daughter of Eben ^r & Mary Spooner	
Nov ^r	1 st		Davie { Betsy Joseph Solomon & John }	Children of Thomas Davie
Dec ^r	20 th		Bartlett Joseph Son to Silvanus &	Bartlett

A.D. 1762

Jan ^r	31	Shurtleff Patience Daught ^r of Nath ^l &	Shurtleff
Feb ^r	7 th	Howes Mariah Daughter of Jerem ^h &	Howes
Feb ^r	21 st	Foster Susannah Daught ^r of Deacon Thom ^s & Mary Foster	
March	28	Barrow Samuel Son to Sam ^l & Desire Barrow	

April	4 th	Doten Rebecca Daughter of Isaac & Mary Doten
April	18	Harlowe John Son to Jabez & Experience Harlowe
May	30	Samson Caleb Son to Ebenezer ^{er} & Hannah ¹ Samson
June	6 th	Kempton Nathaniel Son to Jn ^o & Sarah Kempton
July	11 th	Torrey Joseph Son to Tho's & Abig ¹ Torrey
July	18	Spooner John Son to Tho ^s Spooner Jun ^r & Wife
Aug st	1	{ Churchill Solomon Son to Amaziah & Elisabeth Churchill
		{ Morton Mercy Daught of Seth & Mercy Morton
Aug ^t	22 ^d	{ Chandler Robbins Son to Rev ^d Chandler & M ^{rs} Jane Robbins
		{ Morton Elizabeth Daught ^r of Charles & Elizab th Morton
		{ Bartlett Rufus Son to Lemuel & Marah Bartlett
Oct ^r	10 th	Goodwin Francis LeBaron Son to Nath ¹ & Lydia Goodwin
Octob ^r	17	{ Watson Patty Daught ^r of Elkanah & Patience Watson
		{ Cobb Mercy Daught ^r of Ebenezer ^r Jun ^r & Jerusha Cobb
Oct ^r	24	Sherman John Son to John & Eliz th Sherman — provident ¹ Inhabitants
Dec ^r	26	Torrey Elizabeth Daught ^r of Deac ⁿ John & Mary Torrey
1763		
Jan ^r	2 ^d	Morton Rebecca Daug ^r of Nath ¹ Jun ^r & Rebecca Morton
Jan ^r	30	May Sarah Daughter of John & Bathsheba May
Feb	6	Donham Abigail Daug ^r of Amos & Donham

[157] 1763 Baptisms

March	20 th	Bartlett Abig ¹ Daught ^r of Eben ^r & Abigail Bartlett
Aprill	3 ^d	{ Cotton Sarah Daught ^r of M ^r John & M ^{rs} Hannah Cotton
		{ Churchill Hannah D ^r of Jonathan & Hannah Churchill
June	19 th	{ Russell Mercy Daught ^r of John & Mercy Russell
		{ Faunce Jerusha Daught ^r of Thomas & Sarah Faunce
July	3 ^d	Torrey Daniel Son to Nath ¹ & Anne Torrey
Aug st	21	Churchill Bath ^a Daug ^r to Benj ^a & Ruth Churchill
Sep ^r	11 th	Morton Oliver Son to Silas & Martha Morton
Nov ^r	13 th	Churchill Mercy Daught ^r of Eben ^r & Churchill
Dec ^r	11 th	Sproutt Samuel Son to Ebenezer ^r Sproutt & Wife — Middle- borô
Dec ^r	25	Harlow Allice Daught ^r of Jabez & Exper ^{co} Harlow

1764

Jan.	1	Lanman Thomas Son to Sam ¹ & Lanman
Feb ^r	5 th	Jenny Robbins Daughter of Rev ^d Chandler & M ^{rs} Jane Robbins
March	11 th	Morton Job Son to Charles & Elizabeth Morton
April	8 th	Samson Ebenezer Son to Eben ^r & Hannah Samson
April	15	Foster Eunice Daught ^r of Deac ⁿ Tho ^s & Mary Foster ² M ^r Conant
May	27	{ Bartlett Jerusha Daught ^r of Silvanus & Bartlett
		{ Crombie William Son to William & Zerviah Crombie

¹ Written above another name, perhaps "Mary" or "Merey," crossed out.² Written above "Morton," crossed out.

Aug ^t	26	Holmes Joseph Son to Joseph & Phebe Holmes
Sept ^r	2 ^d	Watson Elizabeth Daught ^r to George Watson Esq & Elizabeth his Wife
Sept ^r	16	Hedge Barnabas Son to Barnabas & Hannah Hedge
Nov ^r	4 th	{ Cobb William Son to Ebenezer Cobb & Wife Morton { Ichabod & } Children of Ichabod Morton & Wife { Hannah }

1765

Feb ^r	3 ^d	Howard Sarah Daught ^r of John & Eunice Howard
March	10 th	Cornish { Hannah } Daughters of John Cornish by his Wife { Mary & } Lydia Deceas ^d { Lydia }
July	7 th	Cotton Elizabeth Daughter of M ^r John & M ^{rs} Hannah Cotton by M ^r Conant
	D ^o	Reading Jonathan Son of Reading & Wife at Middleboro
May	5	Russell Abigail Daughter of John & Mercy Russell by M ^r Angier
July	21	Carver James Son to Hope Gorham dec ^d bapt ^d on y ^e Right of its Grandmoth ^r Mary Doten
	28	Churchill Reuben Son to Jonathan & Hannah Churchill
Aug st	11	Bramhall Benjamin Son to Silvan ^s & Mercy Bramhall ¹
Aug ^t	18	Goodwin Anna Daught ^r to Nathan ¹ & Lydia Goodwin by M ^r Parker
Sept ^r	1 st	{ Warren Joseph Son to Joseph & Mercy Warren Morton Elizabeth Daughter of Seth & Mercy Morton
Sept ^r	29	Hannah Robbins Daught ^r of y ^e Rev ^d Chandler & M ^{rs} Jane Robbins
Oct ^r	13 th	Faunce George Son to Thomas & Sarah Faunce (by M ^r Patten)
Nov ^r	3 ^d	Morton Thomas Son to Silas & Martha Morton
Nov ^r	17 th	Watson Lucia Daught ^r to M ^r Elkanah & M ^{rs} Patience Watson
Nov ^r	24	Torrey George Son to Deacon John & M ^{rs} Mary Torrey

[158] 1766 Baptisms

Feb ^r	9 th	Churchill Sarah Daughter of Amaziah & Eliza Churchill
Feb ^r	16	Harlow Lucy Daughter to Jabez & Experience Harlow
June	1	Bartlett Francis Son to Silvanus & Bartlett
June	15	Eddy Hannah Daught ^r to Nathan Eddy & Wife at Middleboro
June	22 ^d	Tisdell Samuel Son to Abraham & Experience Tisdale
July	20	Morton Sarah Daughter of Ichabod Morton & Wife
Aug st	17 th	Bartlett Samuel Adult 71 years old admitted into y ^e Chh & baptiz ^d at y ^e same Time

¹ Here follows some shorthand.

Oct ^r	5 th	Cobb Fear Daught ^r of Eben ^r Cobb & Wife
Oct ^r	19	Holmes Lewis Son to Joseph & Phebe Holmes
Nov ^r	2 ^d	Diman Josiah Son to Dan ^l & Elizabeth Diman
1767		
Jan ^r	18	Goodwin George Son to Nath ^l & Lydia Goodwin
Feb.	1	Churchill Joanna Daughter of Benj ^a & Ruth Churchill
Feb.	22	Watson Elizabeth Daughter of George Watson Esq ^r a motherless Babe
Mar.	8 th	George Robbins Son to Rev ^d Chandler & M ^{rs} Jane Robbins
Mar.	15	{ Torrey Joshua Son to Thomas & Abigail Torrey Symms Hannah Daughter of Isaac & Hannah Symms
May	24	Russell Nancy Daughter of John & Mercy Russell
June	7 th	Symmes Isaac Son to Isaac & Hannah Symmes
July	19	Crombie Kimball Son to Will ^m & Zerviah Crombie
July	26 th	Torrey Martha Daughter of Deac ⁿ John & Mary Torrey
Aug st	2	Jackson ^j Sarah Wife of Thomas Jackson Jun ^r Enter ^d into Cov ^t
Aug st	9	Jackson { Sarah Hannah Thomas Lucy Daniel William Priscilla } Children of Thomas & Sarah Jackson
August	23	Churchill Silvanus Son to Josiah & Patience Churchill
Sep ^r	6	Davis Mercy Wife of Thomas Davis Enter ^d into Cov ^t
Sept ^r	13	Davis { Sarah Thomas William John & Samuel } Children of Thomas & Mercy Davis
Octob ^r	3 ^d	Jackson Deborah Daught ^r of Sam ^l & Exper ^{ce} Jackson at y ^r house sick
Octob ^r	4 a.m.	Mathews Desire Wife of Thomas Mathews rec ^d at Com- munion
	P.M.	King { Betty Rebecca Benjamin } Children of Benj ^a & Betty King
Oct ^r	25 th	Jackson { Thomas Samuel Experience Molly & Elizabeth } Children of Sam ^l & Experience Jackson
	25 th	Churchill Charles Son to Charles & Sarah Churchill
[159] 1767 1768 Baptisms		
Octob ^r	8 th	White Leonard Son to M ^r John & M ^{rs} Sarah White of Haver- hill — She being a Memb ^r of this Chh y ^e form ^r Pastor's Daught ^r

1768

Jan ^y	24	Morton Ezra Son to Silas & Martha Morton			
		{ Cotton Lucy Daught ^r to M ^r John Cotton & Hannah his Wife Jackson Elizabeth Daughter of Eliz ^a Jackson — Hez. dec ^d			
Feb ^r	14	Sergeant	{ Experience Ruth Mary Lydia Elizabeth Sarah & Hannah }	Children of William & Sergeant	
March	27		Bacon Nathan Son to Nathan & Mary Bacon		
Ap ^l	10 th		Jackson Lydia Daughter of Tho ^s Jun ^r & Wife ¹ Sarah		
May	1 st		Sergeant Priscilla Daughter of William & ² Sergeant		
June	5 th		Sherman Andrew Son to Sam ^l & Betty Sherman bapt ^d in y ^r own house sick		
June	12 th		Sherman { Thomas & William }		Children of Samuel & Betty Sherman
		{ Jackson Deborah Daughter of Sam ^l & Experience Jackson			
Aug ^t	28 th	Symmes Grace Daughter of Isaac ³ & Hannah Symmes			
Sep ^r	18 th	Barnes James an Orphan Son of James & Grandson ^l to Sarah Barnes baptiz ^d being ab ^t 12 y ^{rs} old upon it's Grand Mother's Acet y ^e afors ^d Sarah B			
		{ Hannah Robbins Daughter of Rev ^d Chandler & M ^{rs} Jane Robbins			
Oct ^r	2 ^d	{ Morton Zilpah Daughter of Ichabod Morton & Wife			
		Tisdall { Abraham & Isaac }	Twin Sons of Abraham & Experience ^r Tisdall		

1769

March	12 th	Harlow	{ Rebecca Mary & David }	Children of Eben ^r & Rebecca Harlow
Mar.	19	{ Harlow Silvanus an orphan Child illegitm ^t on Esther Jack- sons Right w th whom he lives		
April	9 th	Sherman Betty Daughter of Sam ^l & Betty Sherman		
April	16	Russell Nathaniel Son to John & Mercy Russell		
May	7 th	Barnes	{ Elizabeth & Mary }	Children of Seth Barnes & Wife liv- ing now in Nova Scotia
June	18	Faunce Lucy Daughter of Thomas & Sarah Faunce		
June	25	King Susanna Daughter of Benj ^a & Betty King		
June	25	Crombie Anna Daughter of William & Zerviah Crombie		

¹ Here a word, perhaps "Exp^{ce}," is crossed out.² Here "Experience" is crossed out.³ Altered from "Isaack."

Aug ^t	13	Atwood Hannah Daught ^r of Ezk ^l Rider's Wife by her late Husb ^d a Memb ^r Isaac Atwood
Aug ^t	27	Harlow Rebecca Daughter of Jabez & Experience Harlow
Sep ^r	3 ^d	Holmes { Martha Priscilla Joseph Lydia } Children of Lemuel & Abigail Holmes
Sep ^r	20 th	White Henrietta Daughter of M ^r John & Sarah White at Haverhill See y ^e Top of this Page ¹

[160] 1769 Baptisms

Oct ^r	8 th	Holmes Phebe Daughter of Joseph & Phebe Holmes
	15 th	Johnson Bathsheba Daughter of Josiah & Bath ^a Johnson
	29 th	Morton Josiah Son to Seth & Mercy Morton
Nov ^r	5 th	Turner { Ruth Deborah Sarah Rebecca Lothrop Hannah Molly & David } Children of David & Deborah Turner
	26	Churchill Joseph Son to Charles & Sarah Churchill

1770

Jan ^y	22	Warren Rebecca Wife of Will ^m who ent ^d into Cov ^t on a sick bed & baptiz ^d
Feb ^r	4	Warren { Rebecca Allethea Molly } Children of William Warren
March	11 th	{ Diman Susanna Daughter of Daniel & Susanna Diman Jackson Charles Son to Thomas & Sarah Jackson
	18 th	Harlow Ebenezer Son to Ebenezer & Rebecca Harlow
	25	Cotton Ward Son to John Cotton Esq ^r & Hannah his Wife
Apr ^l	15	Totman { Sarah Hannah Joseph } Children of Joseph & Eliz. Totman
	29	Torrey William Son to Deacon John & Mary Torrey
May	13	Symmes Patty Daughter of M ^r Isaac & M ^{rs} Hannah Symmes
June	24	{ Isaac Robbins Son to y ^e Rev ^d Chandler & M ^{rs} Jane Robbins Torrey Josiah Son to Thomas & Abigail Torrey
July	1 st	Drew Lemuel Son to Lemuel & Elizabeth Drew
	8 th	Watson John Son to M ^r John & M ^{rs} Lucia Watson
Aug ^t	12	Trenholm Desire Daughter of M ^r Will ^m Trenholm & Wife Memb ^{rs} of y ^e Chh of England
	19	Jackson Mercy Daughter of Sam ^l & Experience Jackson

¹ P. [159] of the text, or p. 456 of this volume.

Sep ^r	30	Morton Betty Daughter of Nath ¹ & Rebecca Morton
Dec ^r	23	Sergeant William Son to William & Experience Sergeant

1771

Jan ^{ry}	13	Morton Susanna Daught ^r of Ichabod & Zilpah Morton
	20	Bacon Molly Daughter of Nathan & Mary Bacon
Feb ^r	24 th	{ Harlow Abner Son to Jabez & Experience Harlow Tisdall Susanna Daughter of Abrah ^m & Experience Tisdall
Mar	17	Russell Jenny Daughter of John & Mercy Russell
	24 th	Burbank { Ezra Priscilla } Children of Ezra & Priscilla Burbank Thomas John

[161] 1771 Baptisms

Apr ^l	7 th	Turner Lucy Daughter of David and Deborah Turner
	28	Watson George Son to M ^r John & M ^{rs} Lucia Watson
June	16	Drew Seth Son to Lemuel & Elizabeth Drew
July	14	{ Deborah Robbins Daughter of Rev ^d Chandler & M ^{rs} Jane Robbins
	28	Johnson Seth Son to Josiah & Bathsheba Johnson
		Spooner Deborah Daughter of Thomas & Mary Spooner
Oct ^r	6	Crombie Anne ¹ Daughter of William & Zerviah Crombie
	13	Davis Isaac Son to Thomas & Mercy Davis
Nov ^r	17	Symmes Isaac Son to Isaac & Hannah Symmes
Dec ^r	1	Harlow Bartlett Son to Ebenezer & Rebecca Harlow

1772

Jan ^{ry}	12	Morton Mary Daughter of Seth & Mercy Morton
Feb ^r	28 ²	Jackson Rebecca Daughter of Thomas Jun ^r & Sarah Jackson
March	15	Doten { Hope James Isaac John & Elizabeth } Children of James & Elizabeth Doten
April	19 th	{ Cobb of Ebenezer & Cobb Trenholm William Son to William & Esther Trenholm
May	3 ^d	Churchill Rufus Son to Charles & Sarah Churchill
	31	Burbank Mary Daughter of Ezra & Priscilla Burbank
Oct ^r	4	{ Sergeant Lemuel Son to William & Sergeant Doten Daniel Son to James & Elizabeth Doten
	11 th	Holmes John Son to Nehemiah & Holmes
Nov ^r	8	Watson Sarah Marston Daughter of M ^r John & M ^{rs} Lucia Watson
	15	Holmes James Son to Joseph & Phebe Holmes

¹ Altered from "Anna," or perhaps "Anna" altered from "Anne."² Perhaps "23."

Dec^r 27 { Stephens Sarah¹ Daughter of Eleazar & Eliz^a Stephens
 { Jackson George Son to Samuel & Experience Jackson

1773

April 18 Drew Lemuel an adult who was this day recievd^d to full Com-
 munion
 May 2^d Lewis Thomas Son to Thomas & Lewis
 23 Morton Abigail Daughter of Ichabod & Morton
 June 20 Totman Elizabeth Daughter of Joseph & Eliz^a Totman
 June 27th Washburn { John
 Abiel
 Benjamin
 Prince
 Thomas
 Lydia
 Ruth } Children of John & Lydia Washburn
 27th Drew Elizabeth Daughter of Lemuel & Elizabeth Drew
 July 18 Turner Patience, Daughter to David & Deborah Turner
 Aug^t 8th Lothrop Bathsheba May Daughter to David & Bathsheba
 Lothrop
 Russell Jenny Daughter of John & Mercy Russell
 15th Curtiss { William & } Children of William & Hannah Curtiss
 Lydia
 See next Page

[162] 1773 & 1774 Baptisms

Aug^t 22^d Cobb { Hannah
 Patience
 Joanna
 Lydia
 Sarah
 Abigail
 William
 Elizabeth
 Eleanor
 John } Children of John Cobb, by 2 Wives
 Aug^t 29 Bacon George Son to Nathan & Mary Bacon
 Sep^r 5th { Drew James Jun^r (Adult Son of James Drew) received into
 Communion y^s day
 D^o Crombie Calvin Son to William & Zerviah Crombie
 Octob^r 3^d Symmes Elizabeth Daughter of Isaac Symms² his Wife now
 lying dead
 31 Tisdall Sally Daughter of Abraham & Experience Tisdale
 Nov^r 21 Churchill Jesse Son to Jesse & Churchill
 28 Curtiss James Son to William & Hannah Curtiss

¹ Written over another name, perhaps "Eleazer."

² This name has been altered.

Dec ^r	29	{ Sarah Robbins Susanna Pemberton Robbins }	} Twin Children of y ^o Rev ^d Chandler & M ^{rs} Jane Rob- bins both baptiz ^d at home being sickly. Susanna P. is y ^e Eldest
Jan ^r	1		

1774

Feb ^r	27 th	Jackson Woodworth Son to Thomas Jackson Jun ^r & Sarah his Wife
June	5 th	Burbank Samuel Son to Ezra & Priscilla Burbank
June	12	Morton Abiel Son to Abiel & Rebecca Morton
July	24	{ Harlow Amaziah Son to Ebenezer & Rebecca Harlow
		{ Washburn James Son to John & Lydia Washburn
		{ Doten Mary Daughter of James & Eliza ^b Doten
Aug ^t	21	{ Trenholm John Son to William & Esther Trenholm
		{ Morton Seth Son to Seth & Merey Morton
Oct ^r	2 ^d	{ Hutchinson Margret Daughter of Elisha & Mary Hutchinson
	23 ^d	{ Churchill Samuel Son to Charles & Sarah Churchill
		Holmes Lois Daughter of Nehemiah & Fear Holmes
Nov ^r	13 th	Drew { William Sarah Priscilla Lydia } Children of James & Mary Drew
Nov ^r	20 th	Watson Benj ^a Marston Son to John & Lucia Watson
Dec ^r	4 th	Drew Mary Daughter of (y ^e above) James & Mary Drew Aged ab ^t 17
Dec ^r	18 th	Turner Patience Colman Daughter of David & Deborah Turner
Dec ^r	18 th	Faunce { Eleazar Peleg Joseph Barnaby Hannah Abigail } Children of Peleg & Mary Faunce

[163] 1775 & 1776, 7, 8 Baptisms

1775

March	26 th	Rider { Samuel George & Jenny }	Children of Samuel & Jane Rider
April	16 th	{ Jackson Naomi Daughter of Sam ^l & Experience Jackson	
July	23	{ Morton Ephraim Son to Ichabod Morton & Wife	
		Griffith of Ephr ^m Griffith & Wife — at S ^o Meadows, new Meets ^e h ^s	
July	30 th	Atwood Joè Daughter of Joseph & Martha Atwood of Boston now resident here	
Octob ^r	8	Drew Margret James Daughter of Lemuel & Eliz ^a Drew	
Nov ^r	19 th	Cobb	Daughter of John & Cobb

Dec^r 10th Churchill Lemuel Son to Jesse & Churchill
 17th Curtiss Stoddard Son to William & Hanah Curtiss

1776

Jan^y 21st Russell George Son to John & Mercy Russell
 Feb^r 18 Davis Wendell¹ Son to Thomas & Mercy Davis
 April 21st Battles { Elizabeth } Children of Samuel Battles & Wife
 { Mary }
 { Samuel & }
 { Sarah }
 July 21 Ripley Hannah Robbins adult-Daught^r of W^m of Duxb^o
 now resident here
 Augst 11th Croswell Andrew Son to Andrew Croswell Jun^r & Wife
 Sep^r 22^d Drew Desire Daughter of Benj^a Drew & Wife — of y^e other
 Chh
 Dec^r 1st Doten Thomas Son to James & Eliz^a Doten

1777

Feb^r 9th Stephens Hannah Daughter of Eleazar & Elizabeth Stephens
 Feb^r 23 Spooner James Son to Ephraim & Eliz^a Spooner
 Mar. 16 Churchill Elkanah Son to Charles & Sarah Churchill
 March 23^d LeBaron Son to Isaac & Martha LeBaron
 Mar. 30th Philemon Robbins Son to Rev^d Chandler & M^{rs} Jane Robbins
 April 6th Burbank Nehemiah Son to Ezra & Priscila Burbank
 June 8th Harlow Caleb Son to Ebenezer & Rebecca Harlow
 June 15th { Washburn Solomon Son to John & Rebecca Washburn
 { Sampson Mercy Daughter of Simeon & Deborah Samson
 (of y^e 3^d Chh)
 Aug^t 24th Drew George Son to Lemuel & Elizabeth Drew
 Augst 31st { Cromby James Son to Deacon William & Zerviah Crombie
 { Jackson Hannah Daughter of Sam^l & Experience Jackson
 { Donham { William & } Sons to William Donham & Wife
 { Joseph }
 Sep^r 14th Rider Joshua Son to Samuel & Jenny Rider
 Sep^r 21 Howland Lucia Crocker Daug^r of Daniel Howland & Wife
 28th Morton Mary Daught^r of Ichabod & Morton
 Oct^r 26th Holmes Patience an Adult Orphan reciev^d to Communion
 at y^e same time
 Nov^r 23^d Symmes Peggy Daughter of Isaac & Hannah Symmes

1778

Feb^r 15 Lothrop Polly Daughter of David & Bathsheba Lothrop
 April 12 Croswell Andrew Son to Andrew Croswell & his Wife

[164] 1778, 79, 80, 81 Baptisms continued

April 26th Samuel-Prince-Robbins Son to M^r Chandler & M^{rs} Jane
 Robbins
 May 17th Watson Lucia Daughter of John & Lucia Watson

¹ The fifth letter in this word has been altered.

May	31	Cobb Persis Daughter of John & Cobb
June	7	Doten Elizabeth Daughter of James & Elizabeth Doten
	21	LeBaron Martha Daughter of Isaac & Martha L Baron

1779

Jan ^{ry}	31	Spooner Ebenezer Son to Ephraim & Eliz. Spooner
April	25	{ Battles John Son to Sam ^{ll} & Battles Symmes Sally Daughter of Isaac & Hannah Symmes
Sept ^r	5 th	Samson Martha Washington Daught ^r of Simeon & Debor ^h Samson
Sept ^r	26	Drew William Son to Lemuel & Eliz ^a Drew
Nov ^r	21	Churchill Sarah Daughter of Charles & Sarah Churchill
Dec ^r	12	Watson Daniel Son to M ^r John & M ^{rs} Lucia Watson
Dec ^r	26	Churchill Joseph Son to Jesse Churchill & Wife

1780

Jan ^{ry}	16	{ Lothrop { Harriot } Children of Thomas & Lydia Lothrop Caleb }
Feb ^r	20	{ Crombie Mary Daught ^r of Deac ⁿ W ^m Crombie & his Wife Dyar Mary Daught ^r of Charles & Bethiah Dyar
April	16	Croswell { Abigail & } Children of Jos. & Lucy Croswell — Lucy } by M ^r Sangar
Apr ^l	23 ^d	{ Doten Lucy Daughter of James & Eliz ^a Doten LeBaron { Sarah } Children of William & Sarah LeBaron Mary } Lucy }
May	28 th	{ Bartlett Esther Daughter of William & Mercy Bartlett Samuel y ^e Grandson of Mercy Foster Morton Josiah Son of Seth & Mercy Morton Drew of Benjamin Drew & his Wife
July	2 ^d	{ Barnes { Hannah & } Children of Lemuel & Sarah Barnes Elkanah }
Aug ^t	13	{ Bartlett { Rebecca } Children of the Widow Rebecca Bart- Rufus } lett, W ^m 's Widow
Sept ^r	2 ^d	{ Hosea { William & } Grand Children of Deacon Bartlett & Hannah } Wife
Sept ^r	10 th	{ a Twin Daught ^r of Chandler & Jane Robbins bapt ^d in priv ^t being sick. The other, nam ^d Susan Pemberton, not baptiz ^d , I being absent w ⁿ it died
Sept ^r	17	{ Whitman { John } Children of Mary Whitman, widow of Daniel & } Dan ^l dec ^d Mary }
Sept ^r	17	{ Bartlett Stephen Son to William & Meroy Bartlett Goodwin Elizabeth Daughter of Thomas & Desire Goodwin
Oct ^r	22 ^d	Morton Henry Son to Ichabod Morton & Wife
Nov ^r	11	Crosswell Joseph Son to Joseph & Lucy Croswell

Dec^r 17 { Cobb Josiah Son to John Cobb & Wife
 Bartlett { Dorothy } Children of John & Dorothy Bartlett
 { John & }
 { Henry }

1781

Feb^r 25 { Goodwin { Hannah Jackson } Children of John & Fear Good-
 { Sally } win
 Symms Lazarus Son to Isaac & Hannah Symmes
 March 11th LeBaron Priscilla Daught^r of Will^m & Sarah L Baron

[165] 1781 Baptisms

March 25 Wethrell { Anna May } Children of Thomas & Sarah Weth-
 { Thomas } rell viz the 3 first by his former;
 { Elizabeth & } y^e last by this Wife
 { William }
 D^o Rider Ezekiel Son to Samuel & Jenny Rider
 April 8th Smith Susanna Wife of Nicolas Smith recieved to Com-
 munion
 May 6th LeBaron Francis Son to Isaac & Martha L Baron
 May 13th Bramhall Remember Wife to Joseph Bramhall & rec^d to
 Communion y^e same time
 May 20 Smith { Hannah } Children of Nicolas & Susanna Smith
 { Maria }
 { Nicolas }
 May 27 Spooner Mary Wife of Thomas Spooner & rec^d to Communion
 June 17 Bramhall { Mercy Warren } Children of Joseph & Remember
 { Elizabeth & } Bramhall
 { Mary Bennet }
 July 22^d Goodwin Mercy Daughter of Thomas & Desire Goodwin
 29th Darling Polly maiden recieved to Communion at y^e same
 time
 Aug^t 12th Doten Mercy (Widow of E Doten dec^d) recieved to
 Communion at y^e Time
 D^o 26th Cuffs { William } Children of William & Hannah Coofs
 { Hannah }
 Sep^r 2^d { Bartlett Mercy Wife of Will^m Bartlett Jun^r when rec^d to
 { Communion }
 { Wadsworth John Son to Peleg Wadsworth Esq^r & Elizabeth
 his Wife }
 { Drew Sarah Daughter of Lemuel & Elizabeth Drew }
 Sep^t 30th Goodwin Nancy Daughter of John & Fear Goodwin
 Octob^r 14 Watson William Son to John & Lucia Watson
 Nov^r 11 { Richard Cooper & recieved to Communion }
 { Bramhall Zilpah Wife of George Bramhall & reciev^d to }
 { Commⁿ }
 Dec^r 9th Doten { Mercy & } Children of Mercy Robbins Eben^{rs} Wife
 { Jerusha } formerly Doten

	16 th	Peter Gilman Robbins Son to Rev ^d Chandler & M ^{rs} Jane Robbins								
	23 ^d	Bartlett Jerusha Maid ⁿ Daught ^r of Ichabod & Hannah Bartlett & recieved to Communion								
	30 th	Samson George Washington Son to Simeon & Deborah Samson								
1782										
Jan ^{ry}	13 th	Battles Experience Daughter of Sam ^l Battles & Wife								
Feb ^r	24	Dyer Bethiah Daughter of Charles & Bethiah Dyer								
March	17	Holmes Richard Adult Recieved to Communion at y ^e same time								
		Churchill Abigail Daughter of Jesse & Abigail Churchill								
Apr ^l	14	Doten Lois Daughter of James & Elizabeth Doten								
June	2 ^d	Churchill Ephraim Son to Charles & Sarah Churchill								
June	30 th	Bramhall Mary Bennett Daughter of Joseph & Remember Bramhall								
		Cooper Lucia Samson Daughter of Richard & Hannah Cooper								
		Robbins Ebenezer Son to Ebenezer & Mercy Robbins								
July	7 th	<table><tr><td rowspan="5">Bramhall</td><td rowspan="5">{</td><td>Polly</td><td rowspan="5">} Children of George & Zilpah Bramhall</td></tr><tr><td>Zilpah</td></tr><tr><td>George</td></tr><tr><td>Silvanus &</td></tr><tr><td>Sarah</td></tr></table>	Bramhall	{	Polly	} Children of George & Zilpah Bramhall	Zilpah	George	Silvanus &	Sarah
Bramhall	{	Polly			} Children of George & Zilpah Bramhall					
		Zilpah								
		George								
		Silvanus &								
		Sarah								
July	14 th	<table><tr><td rowspan="3">Atwood</td><td rowspan="3">{</td><td>Deborah</td><td rowspan="3">} Children of Deborah Widow of John Atwood Jun^r Dec^d</td></tr><tr><td>Sarah &</td></tr><tr><td>John</td></tr></table>	Atwood	{	Deborah	} Children of Deborah Widow of John Atwood Jun ^r Dec ^d	Sarah &	John		
Atwood	{	Deborah			} Children of Deborah Widow of John Atwood Jun ^r Dec ^d					
		Sarah &								
		John								
July	28	Crosswell David Son to Joseph & Lucy Crosswell								
Aug ^t	18	Sears Rebecca Wife of Thomas Sears & rec ^d to Communion								
Sep ^t	1	Curtiss Hannah Daughter of William & Hannah Curtiss								
	14 th	Jackson John Atwood Son to Sam ^l & Experience Jackson, bapt ^d in priv ^t being sick								

[166] 1782 1783 Baptisms continued

Sep ^t	15 th	{ Pain Mehitable Daughter of Stephen Pain & Wife Tufts Elizabeth Daughter of Jonathan & Elizabeth Tufts	
Oct ^r	13 th	Sears { Thomas Bartlett & Daniel }	Children of Thomas & Rebecca Sears
Nov ^r	10 th	Symmes Lucy Daughter of Isaac & Hannah Symmes	
Nov ^r	16 th	George Robbins Son to Chandler & Jane Robbins (in private being sick)	
Nov ^r	24 th	Holmes { Richard William Lydia & Polly }	Children of Richard Holmes
Dec ^r	8 th	Holmes Elizabeth maid ⁿ Daug ^r of Jerem ^h Holmes & rec ^d to Communion	

1783

Jan ^y	19	Crosswell Mary Daughter of Andrew Crosswell & Wife
Feb ^r	9	Smith John Son to Nicolas & Susanna Smith
Mar.	2 ^d	{ Shurtleff Lucy (Widow of Abiel) & recieved to Communion Holmes Abigail maiden Daughter of Jeremiah & Wife & rec ^d to Com ^a
May	11 th	Goodwin Lewis Son to Tho ^s & Desire Goodwin
June	1 st	Bartlett Stephen Son to William & Mercy Bartlett
	15 th	Wadsworth Lucia Daughter of Peleg & Elizabeth Wadsworth
	22 ^d	Clark Consider Son to Thomas & Deborah Clark
July	20 th	Cobb Persis Daughter of John Cobb & his Wife
Aug ^t	3	{ Balston Anna Niece to Mary Spooner taken by her to be as her own Child Bramhall Martha Daughter of George & Zilpah Bramhall
	31 st	Goodwin Elizabeth Daug ^r of John & Fear Goodwin
Oct ^r	5 th	Watson William Son to John & Lucia Watson
Oct ^r	12 th	Paty { Hannah } { Margrett } Children of Margrett Paty { Thomas }
		{ Drew Joseph Son to Lemuel & Elizabeth Drew { Thomas } { John } { Ebenezer } { Rebecca } Children of Nathaniel & Cloe Holmes { Patience & { Nathaniel }
Dec ^r	7 th	Withrell Isaac Son to Thomas & Sarah Withrell

1784

April	25	{ Winslow Isaac Son to Thomas & Hannah Winslow Rider Susanna Swift Daughter of Sam ^l & Jenny Ryder
May	23	Bartlett James Son to Sol ^o & Abigail Bartlett
July	4 th	Sears Rebecca Daughter of Thom ^s & Rebecca Sears bapiz ^d by M ^r Everitt
Aug ^t	1 st	{ Robins { George Harlow & } Twin Children of Eben ^r & Mercy { Elizabeth } Robbins Churchill David the Son of Jesse & Abigail Churchill
Oct ^r	3	Doten Eleanor Daughter of James & Elizabeth Doten
	17	Curtiss Jacob Son to William & Hannah Curtiss (in mco Domo)
Nov ^r	21	Dyar Peggy Daughter of Charles & Bethiah Dyar

1785

Jan ^y	23	Cooper Nancy Daug ^r of Richard & Hannah Cooper
------------------	----	---

[167] 1785 1786 Baptisms

Feb ^r	20 th ¹	Bramhall Joseph Son to Joseph & Rememb ^r Bramhall
Mar.	13 th	Luce Ruth Wife of Eph ^m Luce & recieved to Communion
April	10 th	Croswell William Allen Son to Andrew Croswell & Wife

¹ Altered from "10th."

April	24 th	{ Cotton Lydia Daughter of Josiah Cotton Esq ^r & Lydia his Wife Luce { Hannah & Ephraim } Children of Ephraim & Ruth Luce
May	22 ^d	{ LeBaron Elizabeth Daughter of Will ^m & Sarah L Baron Collins { Sarah Bathsheba & Mary } Children of James & Mary Collins
June	19 th	Cobb Rebecca Daughter of Rowland & Jerusha Cobb
July	17 th	Cuffs Molly Williams Daughter of Will ^m & Hannah Cuffs
Octob ^r	16 th	Symmes Joanna Daught ^r of Isaac & Joanna Symms

1786

Feb ^r		Bartlett Amelia Daughter of Will ^m & Mercy Bartlett
March	26 th	Atwood { Phebe Wait Susanna Isaac } Children of Wait Atwood by his first Wife
April	16 th	Watson Winslow Son to John & Lucia Watson
May	21 st	LeBaron Mary Howland Daug ^r of Isaac & Martha LeBaron
June	4 th	Howland Molly Sylvester Daught ^r of Caleb & Howland
	11 th	Thacher Betsy Hayward Daug ^r of Doc ^t James & Susanna Thacher
July	9 th	Churchill Simeon Son to Jesse & Abigail Churchill Goodwin John Son to Thomas & Desire Goodwin
Aug ^t	6	{ Bramhall Lydia Daug ^r of George & Zilpah Bramhall Crosswell Rebecca Daug ^r of Joseph & Lucy Crosswell
Oct ^r	1	Robins Levi Son to Ebenezer & Mercy Robins
	15	{ Ripley Abigail Daughter of Isaiah Ripley & Wife Bradford Abigail Daughter of Gideon Bradford } both at Plimpton, North
Nov ^r	5 th	Symmes Nancy Holland Daug ^r of Isaac & Joanna Symmes

1787

Jan	14 th	Cobb Jerusha Daug ^r of Roland & Jerusha Cobb
	28	Taft Henry Son to M ^r Eleazer Taft (Schoolmaster) & Wife
Mar.	11	Crosswell Sarah Daughter of Andrew Crosswell & Wife
April	29	Withrell Sarah Daughter of Thomas & Sarah Withrell
May	6 th	Finney Susanna Daughter of Ephraim & Mary Finney
	20 th	LeBaron William Son to William & Sarah L Baron
	27 th	Collins Lois Daught ^r of James Collings & Wife
June	3 ^d	Cotton Thomas Smith Son to M ^r Josiah Cotton & Wife
Aug ^t	5	Howland Deborah Daug ^r of Caleb Howland & Wife
	27	Chandler Caleb Son to Elijah Chandler & Wife baptiz ^d in priv ^t being sick
Sep ^r	16	{ Bramhall Gracey Daug ^r of Joseph & Remember Bramhall Winslow James Son of Thomas & Hannah Winslow

Baptisms are continued in Page 178¹

¹ P. [176] of the text, or p. 477 of these volumes.

[168] The following are the Names of those y^t were Members of this Chh when I was ordained which was Jan^y 30. 1760.

C. ROBBINS.

† signifies remov^d to oth^r Chhs or living in other parishes ¹

Alphabettically disposed

Males	Females
A	A
	Experience Atwood
	Mercy Abbot
	Mary Allen
B	B
Thomas Bartlett	Abigail Bartlett Th ^{os} Wife
Joseph Bartlett Deac ⁿ ²	Sarah Bramhall Josh ^s
Ebenezer Bartlett	Sarah Barnes Seth's
Lemuel Bartlett	Sarah Bartlett Dn's
Timothy Burbank	Lydia Barnes alias Samson
† Seth Barns Jun ^r	Rebeckah Bartlett Rob ^t
Robart Bartlett	Sarah Bartlett Jn ^o 's
† Silvanus Bartlett	Abigail Bartlett Eben ^r 's
Joshua Bramhall	Elizab th Bartlett Esq ^r 's
Josiah Bradford	Rhoda Beal Asa ^{'s}
	† Sarah Bradford Wid ^w
	Doreas Barnes
	† Desire Barrow
	Mary Bartlett Lem ^{ls}
	Patience Burgis
	Hannah Bartlett Benj ^s
C	C
M ^r John Cotton	Mercy Churchill Nath ^{ls}
Elkanah Churchill	Sarah Churchill Eleaz ^r 's
Eleaz ^r Churchill	Elizab th Cobb Silv ^s
Benj ⁿ Churchill	Hannah Churchill Jon ^a 's ³
Jonathan Churchill	† Jerusha Carver Josiah's
Amaziah Churchill	Eunice Curtiss
† Josiah Carver	
Eben ^r Cobb Jun ^r	
Eben ^r Churchill	
D	D
Samuel Dunham	Mary Donham Maiden
Ebenez ^r Dunham	Elizabeth Donham Wid ^w of Micajah
Nathaniel Dunham	Mary Dilano Elk ^s
E	

¹ Asterisks also precede many names, but as their meaning is not explained they are omitted in printing.

² "Deacⁿ" precedes "Joseph."

³ Here the words "Patience Clark Wid^w" are crossed out.

F	
John Faunce	Hannah Dyar
Thomas Foster Deacon ¹	Lucy Dyar
† Nathaniel Foster	Mary Doten Isaac's
Thomas Faunce	Sarah Dowe
	Abigail Doten
	Lydia Dilano ²
G	
	Eliz. Doggett
	† Martha Dexter Nov ^r 15 177 ³ Dis-
	miss ^d to Rochester
	Phebe Doten Edw ^{ds}
H	
John Harlow	
John Harlow Jun ^r	
Jabez Harlow	

38

N. B. Mark^d thus † removed from us, or liv^g in other Parishes. See at y^e top.⁴

[169] The List continued from y^e foregoing Page

Males	Females
J	F
Abraham Jackson	Abigail Faunce Jn ^o 's Wife
† Josiah Johnson (31)	Patience Faunce Maid ⁿ
	Mary Foster Dn ^s
K	† Hannah Faunce Tho's ^s ⁴ Plymton
Isaac King	Mercy Foster Tho's Jun ^r
Samuel Kempton	Sarah Faunce Tho ^{ss}
John Kempton	Hannah Faunce Eliez ^{rs}
Eleazar King	Flora Negro Jn ^o Bartlett's
L	G
Lazarus LeBaron	Lydia Goddard wid.
James Lanman	
Sam ^l Lanman	
M	H
Thomas Mayhew	Mercy Harlow Widow
Silas Morton	Mary Harlow Jn ^o Jun ^r
Nathan ^l Morton	Sarah Holmes Zeph
John May	Patience Howland Wid.
	Experience Harlow Jabez ^s
	Mercy Howard James
	Hannah Howes Jer ^h
	Abigail Holmes Lem ^{ls}
	Eunice Howard Jn ^{os}
	Hannah Negro of Esq ^r Hovey
	Patience Holmes Eb ^{rs}
O	

¹ "Deacon" precedes "Thomas."

² Written over another name.

³ P. [168] of the text, or p. 468 of this volume.

⁴ This name is obscure.

	J
P	Hannah Jackson Tho ^s † Esther Jackson Lem ^{ls} Patience Johnson Josi ^h ¹
	K
R	Eliz ^a Kempton Jn ^{os} Thankful King or Holmes N. B. The rest are set down not in alph ^l Order
Thomas Rogers Nehemiah Ripley	Abigail Thomas Jn ^{os} Wife Mercy Stephens Edw ^{ds} Abigail Ryder Jos ^s Wid ^w Mary Ryder Jn ^{os} Widow Priscilla Savery Th ^{ss} Joanna Ward Hannah Rickard Joanna Shurtleff James ^s Lydia Morton Wid ^w Jane Swift Josh ^{as} Rebecca Holmes Hannah Winslow Esq ^{rs} Wife Hannah Waterman John's Thankful Rider Abigail Samson Laz ^{rs} Wid Desire Rogers Tho ^s Wife
S	
Jabez Shurtleff Nath ^l Shurtleff Thomas Spooner † Edward Stephens A Sep ^t Baptist James Shurtleff Thomas Spooner Jun ^r Joshua Swift	
T	
John Torrey Deac ⁿ ² Will ^m Torrey Nathan ^l Torrey	

[170] Members in full Co^munion when I was ordain^d The
List Continued from y^e former Page

Males	Females
W	Mary LeBaron Laz ^s Wife Joanna White Gid ^{ns} Joanna Lanman James ^s Wife Elizabeth Tinkham Wid Widow Pearce Deborah Spooner Th ^s Jun ^{rs} Experience Rich Walter's Wife Sarah Spooner Tho ^{ss} Wife Shurtleff Cap ^t Jabez's Wife Donham Eben ^{rs} Donham Nath ^l ^s Rebecca Sherman Sarah Ripley Nch ^{hs} Wife Sarah Swift Widow Hanna Potter Widow Elizabeth Watson's Co ^l Geo ^s Wife Abigail Washburn Jn ^{os} 96
John Washburn John Waterman George Watson Esq ^r	

¹ Here "Mary Johnson" is crossed out.

² "Deacon" precedes "John."

Date Due

pg 1 - 45

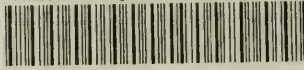
50	5	11
----	---	----

FACULTY



BX9834 .P65F5 A3 v.1
Plymouth church records, 1620-1859.

Princeton Theological Seminary-Speer Library



1 1012 00043 5802